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President Hafez Al Assad



President Saddam Hussein



President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan



Head of State Mohammad Al Mirghani



Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifeh



President Chadli Benjedid

12 Arab heads of state arrive to warm welcome

Leaders, saying Arab Nation is at a critical juncture, underline urgent need for definite joint action

By Jordan Times Staff Reporters with Petra dispatches

AMMAN — Twelve Arab heads of state arrived here to warm welcomes and full honours on Saturday, and six other leaders are due today for the extraordinary Arab summit conference. The arrival of all 18 leaders will make this the best-attended Arab summit since the 1982 summit in Fez.

His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi, Prime

Minister Zaid Rifai and other senior Jordanian officials headed the welcoming ceremonies for the 12 heads of state who streamed through the Amman airport amid full honours and 21-gun salutes.

The leaders of Kuwait, Mauritania, Qatar, Morocco, Saudi Arabia's crown prince and Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat were expected to begin arriving today. Arab League sources told the Jordan Times that Tunisia's Foreign Minister, Mahmoud Al Mes-

tiri, and Libya's second in command, Abdul Salam Jalloud, were scheduled to arrive today.

As helicopters hovered in rainy skies and troops guarded main streets and crossroads, Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Aptidon was the first leader to arrive. He was followed by Sheikh Issa Ibn Khalifa of Bahrain, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, South Yemeni head of state Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas, Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said of Oman, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan, Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, Somalia's president, Mohammad Siad Barre, Sudanese head of state Mohammad Al Mirghani, Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

In arrival statements made at the Amman airport, Arab leaders called for overcoming inter-Arab disputes and seeking a unity that would safeguard pan-Arab secur-

ity and the integrity of the Arab World.

UAE President Sheikh Zayed said that the Amman summit was a great opportunity for Arab leaders to assess the deteriorating situation in the Arab World and to seek solutions to all pressing problems.

"We are today at a crossroads that require us to impose a limit to these disputes and this regression in which we are submerged," Sheikh Zayed told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, in his arriv-

al statement. "There is no better way to heal Arab rifts than through a top level Arab meeting that would provide the needed cures for our problems," he said.

Sheikh Zayed urged Arab leaders to "rise to a level of responsibility in these critical political circumstances and to bypass all differences."

"We have to realise that, tomorrow, the Arab Nation will hold each Arab leader the responsible for all he says and achieves and will assign to each

leader his stands," he said.

The UAE leader said he was positive that the Arab people "look to their leaders with a deep conviction that they must rectify their course, clear the Arab atmosphere and mobilise all resources and capabilities towards a united Arab action that would reflect the interests of all Arabs from the ocean to the Gulf," Sheikh Zayed said.

President of the People's

(Continued on page 4)



President Amin Gemayel



President Abdullah Saleh



Sultan Qaboos Ibn Sa'id



Head of State Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas



President Mohammad Siad Barre



President Hassan Gouled Aptidon

Arab summit opens today with cautious optimism towards collective action over national security

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

THE EXTRAORDINARY Arab summit opens here today against a backdrop of cautious optimism that the conference would reinforce a constructive and collective Arab action to tackle the threats and challenges facing the Arab Nation and Arab national security.

Foremost in the minds of the Arab leaders gathered here to discuss and chart a sound course to counter these threats are the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war, the Arab-Israeli conflict, Egypt's return to the Arab League and the almost 12-year-old civil strife in Lebanon.

But amid the mounting feeling of urgency to find an end to the Gulf war which prompted the convening of the summit, there appears to be a widespread belief among Arab states that it is high time for joint Arab action on all fronts, including immediate

moves to end the war on the eastern flank of the Arab Nation.

The general Arab position on the Gulf war, however, will be discussed within the broader context of "Arab national security," which is the agreed-upon central theme of the conference. In theory, it implies that while the focus of the discussions will be on the Iran-Iraq war, spillovers of which threaten several Arab states in the Gulf in addition to the actual Arab combatant — Iraq — other problems threatening to undermine Arab national security should be tackled as inextricably connected issues.

In fact, the philosophy behind choosing Arab national security as the theme of the summit in Amman is very expressive of the prevailing situation in the Arab World as well as of the hopes of the Arab leaders to fend off common dangers as one united body.

Analysts see the title as reflecting hope, or at least a basic

assumption, that the common interest in preventing the collapse of Arab national security shared by the Arab states could be the common factor that binds the Arab leaders who are otherwise divided on almost all crucial issues facing the Arab Nation.

In practical terms, this assumption implies that all Arab states participating in the summit will seek to find common denominators which could least prevent further penetration of Arab national security on any front. But, on the eve of the summit, there are indicators of a reserved optimism, yet without underestimating the serious divisions which characterise the Arab scene today, that the conference will produce the minimum level of coordination and unity essential to achieve the common goal of security.

On the one hand, the summit will mark the first successful effort at gathering all Arab states (except Libya, whose intentions

to attend or not to attend the summit was not clear by Saturday evening), since September 1982 when the last ordinary Arab summit was held in the Moroccan city of Fez.

Most Arab officials and analysts see the convening of the summit "as an achievement in itself... it also holds out the prospect of putting a firm end to unilateral actions by individual Arab states."

To a considerable extent, this comment reflects a growing consensus among Arab states against the "dangerous implication of unilateral Arab actions which have weakened the stand of individual Arab states as well as the Arab Nation as a whole," said a seasoned Arab analyst here.

This trend has been fostered by the frustrating failure so far of Arab efforts to make any tangible headway towards convening an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict — an issue that has been there before the

recent escalation of the Iran-Iraq war — as well as conflicting signals emanating from efforts to end the Gulf war itself.

Furthermore, many observers point out, Iran's expansion of its war with Iraq to other states in the region — particularly Kuwait and Saudi Arabia — have generated a realisation that Iraq was not the only target of the revolutionary regime in Tehran.

Yet, this growing realisation of a collective danger, serious differences prevail over how to counter it in the most effective way and have so far preempted efforts to produce an Arab consensus backing Iraq.

In general, there appear to be four positions among the Arab countries vis-a-vis the war and approach to the Iranian threat. — the first position stems from the belief that Iran is no less a threat to the Arabs than Israel. This position is reflective of a

(Continued on page 3)

Masri: Summit seeks consensus on Gulf and Arab-Israeli conflict Strong and unanimous stands essential to counter threats and challenges facing Arabs

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said Saturday the Amman Arab summit would be seeking consensus on the Iran-Iraq war and the Arab-Israeli conflict and that the summit's agenda would be left open for any proposals that may be raised by Arab leaders during the conference.

The foreign minister, speaking at a press conference, underlined the central theme of Arab national security at the summit by saying that there was "a clear link" between aggression from the West and from the East against the Arab Nation.

"From the west, it is Israeli expansionism, and from the east there are the Iranian threats," he said. "The main issue at the conference will be how to confront these threats and challenges."

Replying to a question on whether the summit conference would sacrifice a strong resolution on the Gulf war in favour of unanimity, Mr. Masri said: "We



Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, official spokesman for the extraordinary Arab summit opening today, holds a press conference on Saturday (photo by Yusef Al 'Allan)

are seeking a combination: a strong resolution and a unanimous support for the resolution." He said that achieving such a combination would be "excellent" and "a great success."

"The Arab leaders will discuss this in a very serious and deep manner," Mr. Masri told the press conference, which was held as a curtain-raiser to the summit opening today. He said that His Majesty King Hussein, chairman

(Continued on page 8)

Ibn Ali assumes presidency after removing Bourguiba

TUNIS (Agencies) — Prime Minister Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali took over power from ailing President Habib Bourguiba on Saturday, saying the 84-year-old president was no longer fit to hold office.

In a statement read over the national radio at 6:30 a.m. (0530 GMT), Mr. Ibn Ali said Mr. Bourguiba was deposed for "incapacity." Mr. Ibn Ali said that based on his "faith in a medical report" he was removing Mr. Bourguiba from office "under article 57" of the country's constitution.

Mr. Ibn Ali, a former interior minister and army general who was appointed prime minister barely a month ago, was later sworn in at a ceremony in parliament broadcast live on Tunis Radio.

Tunisians appeared to accept the change calmly. Normal security was maintained in the centre of the capital. Security forces, however, blocked off approach roads to the presidential palace and police also stood guard out-

side the home of Habib Bourguiba Junior, Bourguiba's son. The Tunisian news agency TAP said police arrested a number of people "as a preventive measure" but denied a report that Mr. Bourguiba's influential niece, Saida Sassi, was one of them.

The change was welcomed by France, Tunisia's former colonial ruler, by neighbouring Algeria and by Egypt.

The transition of power, while abrupt, apparently occurred without violence. Reports from the capital said the country was calm. Communication links remained open, but all 23 flights leaving Tunis main airport were temporarily cancelled. Arriving flights were allowed to land.

Mr. Ibn Ali, 51, who made his mark as national security chief for his role in putting down anti-government riots and for his crackdown this year on Islamic fundamentalists, raised Mr. Bourguiba for his "colossal sacrifices."

But he said the constitution

would be changed to prevent anyone in future again becoming president-for-life.

Announcing Mr. Bourguiba's removal on Tunis radio, Mr. Ibn Ali said:

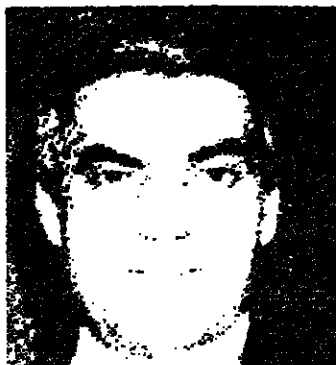
"National duty compels us today, given his senility and lingering illness, to announce, on the basis of a medical report, that he has become totally incapable of undertaking the duties of the presidency..."

"Accordingly, and on the basis of... the constitution, we assume with God's help and guidance, the presidency and the supreme command of our armed forces."

The constitution allowed him to oust Mr. Bourguiba in the event of his death, resignation or incapacity.

Mr. Ibn Ali's action resolved a primary concern in the country of seven million people — the veteran leader's visible frailty and uncertainty about the succession.

Mr. Bourguiba had sacked two prime ministers in the past 15 months. He also divorced his wife, Wassila, a powerful political



Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali

figure in her own right, and made frequent changes in his government and the leadership of the ruling Destourian Socialist Party which he founded.

Mr. Ibn Ali dropped from his new government two ministers who had been tipped in the past as possible presidential successors, Mohammad Sayah and Mansour Skhiri.

Another close Bourguiba aide, Amor Chadli, who was in charge of the presidential office, was also dropped. Mr. Chadli is Mr. Bourguiba's personal doctor but did not sign the medical report declaring him unfit.

Mr. Ibn Ali appointed one of his closest confidants, Hedi Bacouche, as prime minister. The new president is a specialist in internal security, a member



Habib Bourguiba

of Tunisia's French-trained military elite, and one of the few Tunisian generals to reach high civilian office.

He was a leading figure in the government's recent crackdown on Islamic fundamentalists accused of plotting Mr. Bourguiba's overthrow with backing from Iran.

Seven fundamentalists were sentenced to death in September and of these two have been executed.

Tunisia is the smallest of the Maghreb states, between Algeria to the west and Libya to the east. It was a French protectorate from 1881 to 1956 and is now the seat of the Arab League and the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mahmoud Tahboub and Sons
Agents for Alno kitchens

On the occasion of the convening of
the extraordinary Arab summit

Salute and welcome the
Arab leaders and heads of state
Guests of

His Majesty King Hussein
and wish them
a successful summit and a pleasant stay in Jordan



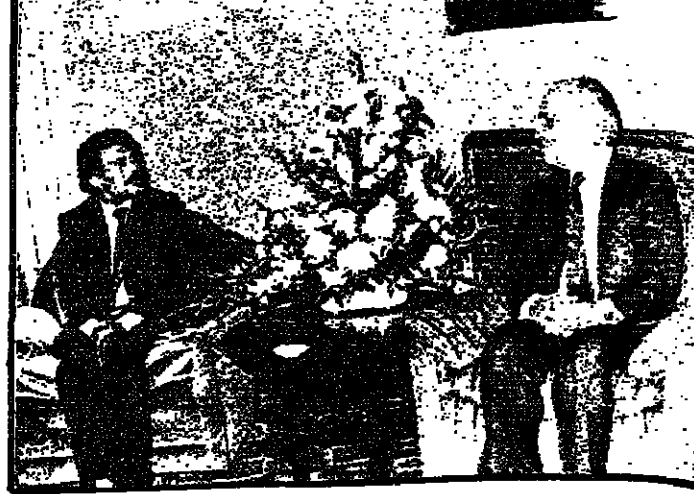
His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday conferring with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.



Lebanese President Amin Gemayel Saturday calls on UAE President Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan.



Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Saturday meets with North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh.



His Majesty King Hussein calls on North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh Saturday at the Yemeni leader's place of residence.

Sheikh Zayed proposes three Arab leaders to visit Tehran

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (AP) — The president of the United Arab Emirates Saturday proposed that the Arab summit empower a panel of Arab leaders to visit Iran to urge it to end its war with Iraq.

The Arab summit should empower three neutral leaders to visit Tehran and tell the Iranians they are authorised to guarantee all Arab rights as decided by the Arab League, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan was quoted as saying.

"After the Iranians accept our proposals, we will ask them to withdraw their troops from international borders," he said.

The interview with Sheikh Zayed was published in the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Rai Al Aam and UAE newspapers.

Sheikh Zayed is chairman of the six-nation alliance of the Arab countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). He expressed readiness to go to Tehran as a member of the proposed mediating committee.

"Since Iran claims to have rights and Iraq also does, the three neutral leaders should go to Tehran and guarantee their (legally proved) rights on behalf of the Arab states and do the same thing in Baghdad," Sheikh Zayed said.

He hinted at the readiness of Arab states to pay compensation to Iran for war losses "not if the Iranians asked for it but if legal arbitration ruled for them and this ruling was guaranteed by the peace mission."

"The panel should tell the Iranians that if arbitrators rule that Iran has any rights due from Iraq, the three Arab leaders will take the responsibility of obtaining them from Iraq and paying them to Iran, and if Iraq deserves any rights from Iran, the Iranians should hand them over to the panel," Sheikh Zayed said.

Iran has asked for reparations and has insisted that Iraq be formally blamed for starting the war.

Sheikh Zayed called for pursuing a "reconciliatory method" in dealing with Iran and ruled out resort to force to end the Gulf war if Iran rejected the initiative.

"We should look for another solution," he said when asked what to do if Iran rejected the U.N. and Arab League peace efforts. The U.N. effort is based on Security Council Resolution 598 which was passed July 20 demanding a ceasefire and a comprehensive solution to the conflict.

"We have to spare the remnants of the manpower and resources of the two Muslim countries in order to be able to confront our common enemy (Israel)," he said.

The UAE president blamed Iran and Iraq for the presence of foreign fleets in the Gulf.

PARIS (R) — French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac refused on Saturday to join a conservative challenge to Socialist President Francois Mitterrand over his alleged role in an arms-to-Iran scandal and said the mudslinging should stop.

A report released last week said Mr. Mitterrand had been told of illegal shipments of munitions to Iran by a French company in May 1984 and that the exports continued until 1986.

"If there were deliveries of arms to Iran contrary to French policy, it is a national security matter. An inquiry is under way," Mr. Chirac said in a television interview.

"So let's not make it a subject for polemics, especially election polemics. Let's allow justice to run its course."

Several prominent conservatives, likening the scandal to Washington's Irangate affair, when arms were sold to Tehran in a bid to free American hostages in Lebanon and profits were channelled illegally to Nicaraguan contra rebels, have urged Mr. Mitterrand to say "what he knew and when he knew it."

But the president, who is expected to face a challenge from Mr. Chirac in presidential elections next April, has remained silent.

The report said senior Socialist Party officials were suspected of involvement in the cover-up.

The Socialist Party have denied approving or benefiting from the sales.

Mr. Chirac's spokesman on Friday said the scandal was damaging France's image abroad and helping its adversaries in the Middle East, an "explosive" region where French interests are at stake.

France, which supports Iraq in the seven-year-old Gulf war with Iran and has a long-established embargo on arms sales to Iran, severed relations with Tehran last July in the midst of a double-siege of each other's embassies.

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Lebanon continues general strike as Gemayel arrives for Arab summit

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanon remained paralysed for a third straight day Saturday by an open-ended strike to protest the worst economic crisis in the republic's history.

The strike continued as President Amin Gemayel arrived in Amman to attend the Arab summit meeting which is expected to discuss among other issues the Lebanon, where civil war has raged for 12 years.

A presidential statement said Mr. Gemayel left by helicopter for Larnaca, Cyprus, where he boarded a plane for the 90-minute flight to Amman to participate in the emergency summit.

Mr. Gemayel, 45, a Maronite Catholic, is the only Christian head of state in the Arab World.

The nationwide anti-inflation shutdown began Wednesday, and labour unions prepared to escalate the protest which calls for effective measures to halt a rapid decline in the value of the Lebanese pound.

The pound's slide against foreign currencies has sent prices skyrocketing in a nation that imports at least 85 per cent of its needs.

Beirut's 13 daily papers published Saturday after a two-day strike in solidarity with the 300,000-strong General Confederation of Labour Unions (GCLU) that sponsored the general protest.

The papers fronted a call by GCLU Chairman Antoine Bishara for demonstrations across the country Monday to "express our anger because nothing has been done to deal with

the economic crisis."

Mr. Bishara made the statement Friday following a four-hour meeting in Beirut of the GCLU's Executive Committee to discuss the strike as cracks began to appear in the shutdown.

Some grocers, butchers, small factories and other businesses resumed work in Beirut and other major cities Friday despite the GCLU's total shutdown decision.

"The participants stressed the need to escalate the strike," Mr. Bishara told reporters.

Beirut International Airport and the city's seaport remained closed for the third straight day along with schools, banks, government offices, restaurants and amusement centres.

GCLU statements said pharmacies, hospitals and bakeries are exempt.

The Lebanese pound, once the soundest currency in the Middle East, has sunk to a record low of 700 to the U.S. dollar in the Beirut money market. It rated 2.5 to the dollar before outbreak of the civil war in 1975.

Moderate political leaders attribute the currency's nosedive to the government's inability to collect taxes and fees for public services in the militia-ruled country which strips the state treasury of its basic revenue.

The general strike started sapping the resources of hardened survivors from 12 years of civil war.

As food caches dwindled and cars started running out of petrol, the first public signs of official interest in the strikers' demands surfaced since the protest began on Thursday.

"The strike is a success all over Lebanon," Mr. Bishara told Reuters. "It is the strike of a nation suffering a slow death. All we want are measures to strengthen the pound."

Mr. Bishara said Prime Minister Selim Hoss had invited a GCLU delegation to discuss the strike with him.

Parliamentary Speaker Hussein Husseini earlier discussed the situation with heads of parliamentary committees, Central Bank Governor Edmond Naim and the general director of the Finance Ministry.

Mr. Naim called for an emergency committee to work on a solution to the crisis, state-run Beirut Radio said.

While the politicians talked, cracks began to show as black marketeers reported brisk business at higher prices than usual because most businesses, in addition to Beirut airport, were still closed.

"The food we bought before the strike has finished so we are buying to feed our children," said Beirut housewife Fatmeh Awad. "But prices are like the stock market, they charge anything."

In the southern port city of Sidon, unionists took to the streets, stopping taxi drivers and asking them not to work. They also called on people to join demonstrations planned for Monday.

"We've just finished the bread we had stored up," said Kay Barbar, a clothes factory worker.

side by the 14th Mechanised Infantry Brigade, is also virtually impassable because of the terrain — a deep gorge through which the Arapayac River flows.

The 14th Brigade, based in Kars, is part of Turkey's Third Army, regarded as the cream of the country's four regional forces.

From a forward infantry post overlooking the gorge, no life was visible on the snow-swept Soviet side less than three kilometres away. Vehicle tracks were clearly visible to where the ground slipped away sharply to the gorge.

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"We don't give defectors back," one source said, adding that military personnel were handed over to Turkey's paramilitary gendarmerie and civilians to the police.

But few try to defect in winter, with temperatures already minus 15 degrees centigrade in Kars, 45 kilometres from the border and 880 kilometres east of Ankara.

A 160 kilometre central frontier area, manned on the Turkish

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Morocco welcomes U.N. peace mission on Sahara

RABAT (R) — King Hassan urged Moroccan to assist a United Nations committee set up to settle a conflict in the former Spanish Western Sahara through a referendum.

"We should all calm our nerves and facilitate the committee's mission," he said in a radio and television broadcast marking the 10th anniversary of a mass march by thousands to strengthen Morocco's claim on the disputed territory.

The Technical Committee, including representatives of the U.N. and the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), is due to visit the region on Nov. 20.

The king sent 350,000 unarmed Moroccan volunteers marching into the desert territory in November 1975 to press his claim, since then he has been at war with Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas fighting for the territory's independence.

Nearly 70 countries have recognised Polisario's self-styled Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR). It was also admitted in the OAU in 1984 and Morocco quit the organisation in protest, taking the issue before the U.N.

King Hassan said the fact the U.N. was dealing with the dispute was "a very important victory which will enable the international community to differentiate between truth and falsehood."

Libyan military leader holds talks in Moscow

TRIPOLI (R) — The commander-in-chief of the Libyan Armed Forces has held talks with Soviet Defence Minister Yuriy Andropov in Moscow, the Libyan news agency JANA reported Saturday.

During the meeting Friday, Col. Abu Bakr Yunis Jabber and the Soviet official reviewed "the prospects of bilateral cooperation and current international issues," according to JANA.

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Libya accuses U.S. of seeking conflict in Chad

BEIRUT (R) — Libya said a U.S. decision to send Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to government forces in Chad was aimed at provoking Tripoli and starting a fresh conflict in central Africa.

The official Libyan news agency JANA said in a dispatch overnight Friday that sending the missiles humiliated an Organisation of African Unity (OAU) reconciliation committee and hindered its efforts.

"The American decision also aims at escalating tension in the area and at opening new centres of conflict through which the American administration seeks to achieve its aggressive intentions towards Libya," JANA said.

"America is presently seeking to occupy Chad in order to provoke Libya," said JANA, monitored in Beirut.

The United States said on Friday it had decided to send Stingers to Chad, where the government has complained of threats from Libyan warplanes, and a U.S. training team was in place.

U.S. officials, who declined to be identified, said 24 of the shoulder-fired missiles worth about \$2 million were being sent.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said the missiles would help contain what he described as a threat to Chad from Libyan warplanes, which Chad has said were repeatedly overflying its territory.

Chad and Libya agreed to an OAU-sponsored truce on Sept. 11, after four weeks of fighting over the disputed Aouzou Strip.

"We draw the attention of the OAU toward the dimensions and consequences of the American interference in Chad, and we demand an end to this interference in our African continent," said JANA.

"The problems of this continent will not be solved except through the OAU and free from foreign interference," it said.

U.S. officials dismissed news reports that France, the former colonial power in Chad which has played the main role in aiding Chad in its long war with Libya, was upset by the American decision.

"You can bet this was cleared with Paris before we talked to the Chadians about Stingers," said JANA.

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FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Other flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 Frankfurt (LFH)

09:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)

10:20 Cairo (MS)

12:10 Rome (AZ)

13:00 Tripoli (LV)

13:45 Bahrain, Sharjah (GF)

14:40 Jeddah (SV)

15:00 Kuwait (KU)

17:20 Athens (OA)

20:00 San'a (LIH)

21:50 Cairo (MS)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228

Amman Civil Defence 198, 199

Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131

Civil Defence Qamashli 770733

Civil Defence Deir Alla 37366

Ambulance 193, 775111

Amman downtown fire brigade 198

First aid 630341

Blood Bank 773342

Civil Defence rescue 66111

Fire headquarters 622090-3

Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777

Police headquarters 639041

Traffic police 686390

Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881

Municipal water complaints 771258

Queen Alia Int. Airport (081333)60

GENERAL

Jordan Television 77311/19

Radio Jordan 77411/19

Ministry of Tourism 642311

Hotel complaints 666412

Price complaints 661176

Telephone Information 12

Jordan and Middle East calls 10

Overseas calls 17

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NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Fayez Jalouga 624027

Dr. Hussein Haddad 731267

Dr. Adnan Zaghool 88140

Dr. Tayseer Sa'di 679592

Firas pharmacy 664112

Ferdous pharmacy 787336

Al Asma pharmacy 657065

Natroukh pharmacy 626272

Al Salam pharmacy 626730

TAXIS:

Ahram taxi 663911

Venecia taxi 644585

Palestine taxi 671473

Shmeisani taxi 666294

Mehyar taxi 644574

Khayam taxi 841577

Jordan taxi 623050

Ascm taxi 844503

IRSID:

Dr. Ali Shuqair (-)

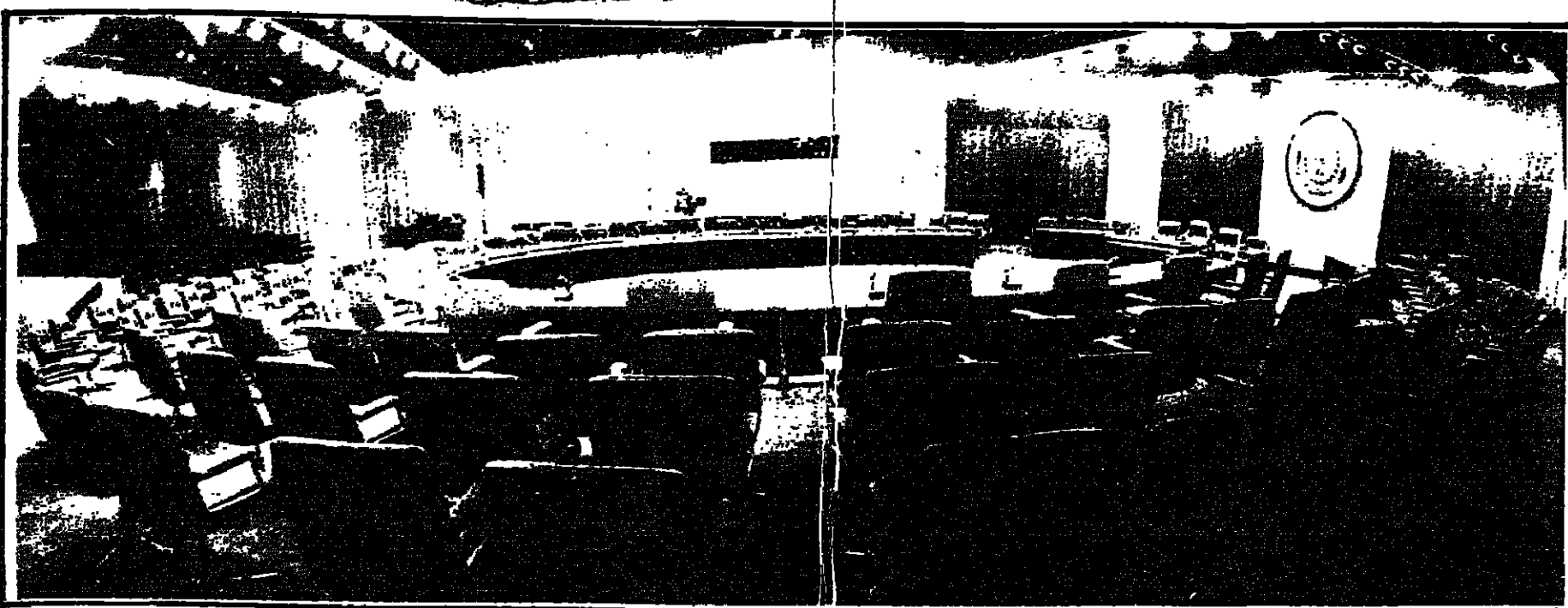
ZARQA:

Dr. Fayez Abdul Aziz 953299

Andalusia pharmacy (-)

Omar pharmacy (-)

MARKET PRICES



The summit conference hall in the Royal Cultural Centre, ready for the opening of the historic meeting

Odeh urges delinquent taxpayers to take advantage of new plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Finance Hanna Odeh on Saturday urged landowners with overdue taxes and other fees to take advantage of the government's decision to allow them to pay their dues in monthly instalments.

The minister was commenting on Thursday's Cabinet decision which stated that taxes and other fees on buildings and real estate can be paid in monthly instalments within fixed periods of time.

Dr. Odeh said that sums not exceeding JD 1,000 can be paid over 12 months; sums up to JD 2,000, in 18 months; between JD 2,000 and JD 5,000, over a period of 24 months; sums above JD 5,000 but not exceeding JD 10,000 can be paid over 30 months; and sums exceeding JD 10,000 can be paid over 36 months.

The minister said that concerned citizens should report to finance departments in their regions and governorates from now until the end of November to make arrangements for payment.

If after making arrangements a citizen fails to honour his or her commitment, then fines will be imposed and the whole deal will be cancelled.

Dr. Odeh said that the government has also made arrangements for students who were on government scholarships but who failed to honour their commitments to work duty. Such students are required under their agreement with the government to pay for the cost of their scholarships, according to the minister, who added that these students can now pay their dues in monthly instalments without any additional fines, provided that the payments are made in full by the end of January 1988.

If students fail to pay their dues according to arrangements they reach with finance departments, they will have to pay fines in addition to the original sum, in accordance with the law.

Dr. Odeh said that the government agreed to the instalment programme to make it easier for people to pay their dues.

Princess Basma attends graduation in Russeifa

ZARQA (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma on Saturday attended the graduation ceremony for a batch of young women who completed a vocational training course in Russeifa.

Princess Basma said during the ceremony that the graduates trained in various professions can contribute to the local market with their skills and production.

The chairwoman of the Russeifa women's society announced that the society's vocational centre would be named after Princess Basma, in recognition of her continued support of its programmes and activities.

At the end of the ceremony, Princess Basma presented diplomas to the 80 graduates.

Arab press notes widespread optimism about summit outcome stresses issue of Arab security

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab newspapers on Saturday gave prominence to the extraordinary Arab summit opening here Sunday, noting in their editorials that there was optimism everywhere about a fruitful outcome to the meeting.

Saudi Arabia's Al-Jazira daily said that the great interest in the summit meeting was due to the fact that it comes a long time after the last summit, and because the theme of this meeting is Arab security, which is a vital issue for all Arab states. The paper said that the subject of Arab security covers such questions as Israel's continued occupation of Palestine and other Arab territory, as well as the situation in the Gulf, where Iran continues to pose a serious threat to the Arab Order.

The paper urged the Arab leaders to adopt vital decisions that can enhance the Arab stance and put an end to all Arab differences, because threats posed to Iraq and Kuwait are, in effect, directed against all Arab countries.

The Saudi newspaper, Al-Bayan, said in its article that dangers in the Gulf are posed against the whole Arab nation. It also underlined the importance of addressing the subject of Arab security at the summit.

Qatari newspapers published Saturday also gave prominence to the meeting in Amman. They said that the Arab masses have hope that the chronic problems plaguing the Arab World will finally be resolved, and that the Arab leaders will come up with a formula for confronting their common enemies.

Al-Raya newspaper said that the meeting in Amman, which

follows a break of several years, is of paramount importance, and it is hoped that the Arab leaders will achieve solidarity. One cannot expect the Amman summit to produce 100 per cent agreement on all issues, the paper said, but the leaders ought to reach, at least, the minimum level of agreement on issues of common destiny.

Al-Arab newspaper said that all eyes are now turned to Amman, as the situation in the Arab World continues to deteriorate. It added that all citizens look to their leaders for meaningful action aimed at ending differences among Arab countries. The newspaper expressed hope that the meeting will usher in a new era of close cooperation and coordination of efforts among Arab countries.

Al-Sharq newspaper of Qatar said in an editorial that the meeting in Amman offers a great opportunity for the Arab leaders to address chronic issues. It warned that certain foreign powers are striving to maintain the Iran-Iraq war because it constitutes a lucrative market for their weapons. The Gulf conflict has caused other important issues, like the Arab-Israeli conflict, to sink on the Arab World's list of priorities and has, thereby, weakened the Arab stand vis-à-vis this conflict, the paper noted.

In Kuwait, Al-Qabas newspaper

said that the Arab leaders now confront historic responsibilities. Their decisions are bound to shape the next stage in Arab history, not only with regard to the dangers that surround the Arab World, but also with respect to the Arab World's relationship with the international community. Should the summit in Amman fail to produce decisive resolutions on joint action, the Arab nation will continue to be exposed to the danger of foreign powers threatening the interests and the rights of the Arab people, the paper noted.

Kuwait's Al-Rai Al-Aam newspaper said that the Amman summit should allow the Arab leaders an opportune occasion to come up with fruitful results that can end the seven-year-old war in the Gulf, allow Egypt to rejoin the Arab fold, and end the crisis in Lebanon and remove all obstacles that continue to impede a final settlement to the Palestine problem.

The newspaper urged the Arab leaders to expose Israeli-Iranian relations, particularly Iran's plans to migrate Iranian Jews to Israel in return for Israeli weapons. It said that Iran is fighting Iraq for the sake of involving Iraq and the countries of the Gulf region in a war that would force them to give up their concern with Israel, and so distract them from their national duty.

Special stamp issued to mark summit

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications has issued a commemorative stamp on the occasion of the extraordinary Arab summit meeting in Amman. The stamp, of the 60, 80, 160 and 240 fils denominations, will be put into circulation as of today. The stamps will bear the logo of the summit conference, in addition to the picture of His Majesty King Hussein.

Jordanians voice mixed views over Amman summit

By Najwa Najjar and Sana Atiyeh
Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — Cautious optimism, revived hopes and scepticism over the summit is the prevailing mood among Jordanians interviewed by the Jordan Times.

A survey conducted by the Jordan Times on the eve of the opening of the extraordinary Arab summit revealed a mood of cautious optimism among many Jordanians. Despite scepticism over the achievements of previous Arab summits, the interviewees expressed clear hopes for the outcome of the Amman meeting.

"The Arab World has reached its worst possible stage and cannot get worse; therefore, this summit is very timely," said an engineer who, like all others interviewed by the Jordan Times, refused to be identified. He counts on some results since all the leaders are meeting around the same table for discussions on the region's crucial issues. "I don't expect anything, but it's better than nothing," he added.

A nutritionist, who sounded optimistic about the conference said, "what gives me hope is that most of the leaders are meeting, and I believe that they will reach resolutions to the conflicts in the Middle East and we will live in peace and stability."

An advertisement salesman who lives in Jerash refugee camp hopes that the summit will result in the formulation of a unified Arab defence strategy for facing any threats to the Arab World. He also hopes for economic unity and for the return of Egypt to the Arab fold. "If it first abandons the Camp David accord with Israel," he said, however, is that this summit leads to the eradication of borders between Arab countries.

"I hope that we will become like the EEC (European Economic Community) countries, which is the ideal situation. I would like to go to any Arab country without having to wait months before getting an entry visa," he said. The salesman expects that the summit will result in unanimous agreement on the principle of an international peace conference on the Middle East under United Nations au-

spices. He also foresees that the leaders will take a strong stance against Iran in the Gulf war.

A computer programmer said that he hoped that Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein would be reconciled "so that President Assad will mediate with the Iranians and put an end to this war."

Offering a different perspective, a secretary said that as long as the non-Arab powers involved in the region's conflicts — Iran, Israel, the Soviet Union and the United States — are not participating in the meeting, "then the summit is merely a summit of words. Words alone won't solve anything," she said.

A division of priorities appeared among those interviewed. One side believed that Israel was the main enemy, while the other cited Iran as the major threat in the region. "This summit should concentrate on the Palestinian cause which is our primary concern. Israel has been our enemy for forty years. The Gulf war comes second; so we should get our priorities right," a farmer from Al-Wahdat said.

A researcher said, "I hope that concentration on the Gulf war will not take the focus away from discussions on the international conference for solving the Palestinian problem under United Nations auspices."

On the other hand, a lawyer interviewed believes that the fear of the Gulf war is what has forced the Arab countries to come together for this summit. "Israel is not as strong as Iran at the time being; therefore, our main aim should be to stop this war," she said, stressing the need for the Arab leaders to unify their stands.

Vehemently voicing his opinion on the summit, a messenger at a government department said, "the most important thing is to stop this war and all the bloodshed in Iraq."

A housewife feels that the Iran-

Iraq war has gained precedence as it has affecting the Arab countries' economies, ultimately damaging the Arab socio-political structure. "Our economy is devastated, and this has been reflected in our society and politics."

A shopkeeper said, "I hope that something will come out of this summit to solve some of our economic problems emanating from the Gulf war. Nothing can be solved without improving the economy; but I don't expect much."

Many of those interviewed voiced disappointment with outcomes of previous summits and appeared to be basing their expectations for the Amman conference on the many unimplemented resolutions adopted by Arab heads of state in the past.

A teacher said, "I have yet to see an Arab summit take concrete decisions and solve the problems which have existed in the area for years, and which they have been discussing for years. If we look at previous summits, then we cannot pin our hopes on any solid results at this summit. But let us hope that this summit will be different and effective."

An administrator pointed out that the last summit held in Amman in 1980 addressed economic problems. "However, the overall situation wasn't as bad as it is today. The fact that Arab leaders are meeting is good, but we have grown accustomed to the idea that nothing will come out of these conferences," he said.

Reflecting this scepticism, a university student said, "we have no precedent that Arab leaders will agree on a unified Arab stand. What is the use of Arab leaders meeting when they cannot agree on the minimum and have irreconcilable differences?"

An accountant feels that the first session after the opening of the Amman summit will determine the success of the meeting. "During this session there will be honest discussions and opinions exchanged, and, here, we will know what the leaders' stands are. Depending on their positions, we will know whether the problems in the area will ever be solved," he said.

Summit press centre offers extensive communications facilities to journalists

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The press centre at Al-Husseini Youth City had a full dress rehearsal Saturday as journalists clamoured to use the communications facilities provided for them following a press conference by Foreign Minister Taher Al-Masri, official summit spokesman. The result is summarised in one statement made by a foreign journalist: "Well done, Jordan."

The finishing touches on the facilities were added after a few, minor complaints were heard in the heavily-equipped halls of the centre. Immediately, these slight problems were corrected.

Until noon Saturday, the press centre made available to all journalists, free of charge, 20 international phone lines divided among 12 different booths. However, 20 connections proved insufficient, so ten more lines and few more booths were installed, bringing the number of telephone lines available for simultaneous use to 35 and the total number to 30.

According to an official from the press centre, 4,000 telephone lines were installed in the past three weeks to accommodate the needs of the summit guests, whether heads of state, officials or journalists.

The press centre has also made available, free of charge, telex and facsimile services in both English and Arabic. There are 15 telex machines and 10 facsimile machines. These services are all available on the ground floor of the building, specially set up for journalists, which also includes booths for international news agencies. On the same floor are special tables for the local newspapers, which all have direct telephone lines, as well as offices for the Jordan News Agency, Petra, which is providing news items to all journalists round the clock.

About 12 television sets were available on both the ground and first floors of the press centre. Eight of the sets were placed in the large hall on the first floor, where journalists are waiting all day for news of a possible press conference by a head of state or



Minister of Foreign Affairs Taher Al-Masri, official spokesman for the Amman summit, addresses a Saturday press conference at the Palace of Culture. Mr. Masri outlined for local and foreign journalists the subjects to be discussed during the summit's sessions (Petra photo)

for the daily briefings by Mr. Masri.

Professional typing services are also available free of charge for messages and stories. Typewriters are also available for the journalists themselves. There are 8 typewriters available all the time and 20 more kept in reserve for emergency cases.

According to officials from the radio services department, all radio facilities will be open for using them at all times. Five different booths have been set up and are fully equipped for real and cassette transmission, either live; or if the subject needs editing, with staff equipped to assist in the transmission.

Certain countries have asked for their own machines for direct transmission to their local radio stations. These are: Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Qatar. Any country interested can request similar services.

There is also a master mixer, connected with the different centres in the summit area, which will broadcast news to Radio Jordan and Jordan Television and to all radio stations in the world. Television services have

already established booths with on-the-air messages to Arab and foreign countries. The countries which are currently receiving these services are: Jordan, Lebanon, North Yemen, Bahrain, Algeria, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Oman, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar and many foreign television stations, bringing the number to nearly 30.

According to television centre official, most of the bookings were arranged ahead of time, and any extra bookings are now available only in the case of vacancies. All broadcasts are transmitted through three satellites (Arabsat, Indian Ocean Relay and Atlantic Ocean Relay) and microwave links, in the case of Syria and Iraq.

The main job of this particular centre is "technical editing and transmission services," said one official, while live coverage and other programmes are broadcast from the Palace of Culture.

So far, the exact television programme for the next few days is not known and is open for any possible additions, whether news coverage or special programme.

Summit opens today amid cautious optimism

(Continued from page 1)

growing fear of a possible upsurge of Tehran-sponsored Iranian-style Islamic fundamentalist movement which could sweep the area threatening the stability and security of most, if not all, Arab states. Proponents of this position have been pushing for a total break in relations with Iran for its refusal to respond positively to peace efforts to the Gulf war, which offers the right platform for Iran to drum up religious fervour and support for its own brand of Islam.

The second position, which is endorsed mainly by Syria, maintains that Israel remains the major threat to the Arabs while Iran is "an anti-imperialist and revolutionary state, which, unlike Israel, is not an alien entity in the region." This view is further underscored by the continuing rivalry between Syria and Iraq and the marriage of convenience between Damascus and Tehran in the context of Lebanon.

The third position is one endorsed by some of the Gulf states themselves — such as the Sultanate of Oman and the United Arab Emirates — which have maintained traditionally good relations with Iran and are known to favour dialogue as a means to settle the Gulf conflict.

The fourth position, which has emerged recently among Arab officials, political activists and intellectuals, stems mainly from concern to end the Iran-Iraq war since it saps Arab resources in the Arab confrontation with Israel.

But, despite these seemingly deep differences, many Arab officials and analysts believe that there is a common ground which could offer a unified stand during the Amman summit. This common ground could constitute a "compromise" between Iraq's demand for a total break in Arab relations with Iran and a conde-

mnation of Tehran on the one hand and Syria's support for Iran. This formula, according to some high-level Arab officials, could include:

— A declaration of support for Iraq's defensive position and Baghdad's consistently positive responses to efforts to end the conflict peacefully;

— A rejection and condemnation of occupation of Arab territories, expansion, of acts of war and threats of freedom of navigation; and

— Support for U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 and for an arms embargo on the party which refuses to abide by it.

Any Arab resolution, which falls short these points will fall short of Iraq's expectations from the summit, but most analysts believe that this could be the maximum that could be achieved from the conference.

Many Arab officials, however, also believe that a resolution stemming from the Amman summit along these lines could encourage the U.N. Security Council to enforce implementation of Resolution 598.

Another factor that could complicate the expected discussions and provoke a serious debate in the conference is the often conflicting stands of various Arab states over the foreign military presence in the Gulf region.

Syria is expected to demand a clear definition of the Arab position on the foreign military presence in the Gulf but, according to well-informed sources, supporters of Iraq will counter this by saying that it was Iranian attacks on neutral shipping that threatened freedom of navigation and invited the presence of foreign naval fleets, including the U.S., to protect shipping in the Gulf.

The underlying current in the issue — that the U.S. presence in the region could herald American "hegemony" — has provoked fears in many Arab states and therefore could spark off another heated debate at the summit.

Thus, according to some Arab diplomats, any resolution on the Gulf war would also include the rejection of all forms of foreign intervention in principle and enshrine a linkage between peace in the Gulf and withdrawal of all foreign forces from the strategic waterway as opposed to the Iranian demand that peace will come only after foreign forces quit the region.

Another extremely controversial and sensitive issue facing the summit is Egypt's return to the Arab League.

Some of the Gulf states, Iraq and Jordan which are strongly rallying for the return of Egypt seem to believe that the conditions are ripe for pushing their cause further, especially that most Arab states, except Syria, Libya and South Yemen, have developed close relations and cooperation with Cairo despite the absence of diplomatic ties.

The fact that the conference is being hosted by Jordan is expected to strengthen the pro-Egyptian campaign, particularly that Amman was the first to restore diplomatic ties with Cairo three years ago and is currently maintaining good relations with Syria.

Yet it is very unlikely, and according to analysts still far-fetched, that the summit could readmit Egypt to the Arab League.

The 1978 Baghdad summit suspended Egypt's membership in the Arab League; and the resolution can only be revoked by a unanimous Arab summit deci-

sion. Thus, supporters of the return of Egypt would try to make a first crucial step by pushing for a decision that will allow for individual Arab states to restore diplomatic ties with Cairo, according to analysts.

Unlike the issue of readmission of Egypt to the Arab League, the question of restoring ties with Egypt does not require a summit decision since it was in response to a foreign ministerial "recommendation" that all Arab countries, except for Oman, Sudan and Somalia, severed ties with Cairo following the signing of the Camp David peace treaty.

But even though the "recommendation" was not obligatory, analysts say, most Arab countries feel that they need tacit Arab backing to formalise their relations with Cairo.

Although Syria is still strongly opposed to reestablishing ties with Egypt there seems to be a growing consensus among other Arab states that the return of Egypt "... has become extremely essential for enhancing the Arab World potentials in facing the challenges."

The main argument is that the political weight of Egypt is needed to redress the dangerous imbalance in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iran-Iraq war. On the other hand, the counter argument holds that "... Egypt cannot effectively play such a role unless it abandoned Camp David."

Arab diplomats, however, say that the chances of success of this pro-Egypt campaign heavily hinge "on the ability of the Gulf states, which constitute an influential block inside the Arab League, to maintain a firm and unified position on the issue during the conference."

Other analysts warned that the

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

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All eyes on summit

LEADERS of the Arab World meet in their extraordinary summit today amid great expectations and hopes: expectations that the conferees will tackle head-on the immense problems facing the nation, and hopes that, post-Amman, common Arab action will be firmly placed on its rightful course.

History the Arab leaders will make over the next few days, whichever way their meeting goes. The issue, however, is whether history will record that, at the Amman summit, the Arab leaders managed to clear their landscape of the contradictions that litter it, or they chose to leave their problems and disputes to fester and deepen at the expense of the Arab Nation, its people and their higher interests.

None of our leaders needs to be lectured on the current state of affairs in the homeland — the external threats that face us or the internal strife that is tearing us apart. None of them needs to be reminded of the great challenges confronting each and every Arab. And certainly none needs to hear recipes for how the deterioration can be arrested and reversed. There are no ready-made recipes for the crises engulfing the Arab World today, but the issues are clear, and solutions can be found. All it takes to put us back on track is the collective will of the Arab summitters to work together, in the spirit of brotherhood and the interest of Arabs and Arabism, and their determination to end the divisiveness, disintegration and fragmentation of past years.

There is but a simple equation to restore credibility and strength to joint Arab action: Respect for the Arab Order and belief in pan-Arab national security. These are not vague terms — certainly not when today's summit is held under the heading of "Safeguarding Arab National Security."

This term means, among other things, that the Arabs have to work together to end the Iran-Iraq War, so that Iraq can resume its full role in confronting the Israeli danger to the west. It means that Egypt's isolation and estrangement from the rest of the Arab World should end, as it is not in the nation's higher interest to keep Egypt out of joint action and away from the heart of the Arab body politic. Protecting the Arab Order and national security means standing up and putting a speedy end to Israel's occupation of our lands and the Jewish state's oppression of the Palestinians in their homeland. It also means stopping the bloody strife in Lebanon and bringing about reconciliation among all Arab groups and states, both in the Mashreq and Maghreb.

Not all of these issues might be tackled in force and at length by the Amman summit. But most of them will be. And that is where we look to the Arab leaders to debate and coordinate their respective positions in the hope that a common denominator will be arrived at and adhered to in the days ahead.

It has been said that the fact an Arab summit has been agreed to and held at all is an achievement in itself. Maybe so. But now that the summit is a reality, and it looks to be the best-attended in many years, means that it is incumbent upon all Arab leaders to make it a success.

A successful summit it will be if the Arab leaders want it to be. All eyes are on them to make a new start in common Arab action and to build Arab strength anew.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Summit for solidarity

ARAB security will be the main subject on the agenda of the extraordinary Arab summit opening in Amman Sunday; and therefore, we can describe this summit as the summit of "Arab solidarity," because without solidarity there can be no security. There can be no security for the Arab Nation unless its countries agree on joint action with determination and by pledging all efforts and resources with which they can handle their different problems. It should be remembered that guaranteeing Arab security is not confined to safeguarding the safety of Arab countries only but this task should provide protection and safety to the Arab people under Israeli arbitrary rule and occupation. It should also be noted that any success in achieving national security should also mean success for the Arab countries in their drive to deter the aggressors, and also should mean taking practical steps to foil the aggressors' ambitions and evil plans. Once the Arab leaders have achieved this point, then all the avenues for cooperation and coordination will be wide open to them to regain their usurped rights and lands. Through solidarity and joint action the heads of Arab countries can put an end to foreign countries' exploitation of the Arab Nation and its tragedies and sufferings. It should be emphasised that Arab national security does not contradict with the course of Arab struggle and that security cannot be achieved through capitulation, but rather through joint and determined struggle in the face of aggressors. The Arab masses are waiting for positive results from this summit, and are behind their leaders in the call for joint struggle.

Al Dustour: In quest for national salvage

AMMAN will Sunday embrace the Arab heads of state who will meet to find means of putting an end to the long sufferings of their nation and a long period of divisions and disputes among Arab states. Arab masses everywhere will turn their attention and their eyes to Amman Sunday to hear and to see positive results that will augur well for the future. The meeting presents a touchstone for the heads of Arab states and their real and serious determination to serve their nation. These heads of state ought to forego the consequences of past divisions and tragedies and weakness and lay a sound foundation for the future of the Arab Nation, ridding it of all elements of weakness. For the Arab masses, the summit meeting in Amman represents a turning point in the life of the Arab Nation and a first step leading to an end of the long chain of dangers and the threats that have been confronting the Arab people. The Arab leaders decided to meet here in the light of the numerous problems and the dangers posed against their nation, and we hope that they will achieve their objective. We are confident that through solidarity and serious endeavours, the Arab leaders will arrive at fruitful results benefiting their nation and serving its future generation.



Habib Bourguiba -

TUNIS (R) — Habib Bourguiba, reported removed from the presidency on Saturday because of his age and health, was the architect of modern Tunisia and ruled it for more than 30 years after independence from France in 1956.

Made president for life in 1975 and still in charge well into his 80s, he symbolised the new North African state, representing stability in perilously shifting economic and political sands.

Mainly through his drive and far-reaching secular reforms Tunisia became a Western-oriented state. At the same time, in the Arab World, Bourguiba's philosophy of compromise and negotiation gave his country status beyond its physical size.

Tunisia became the seat of the Arab League after its transfer from Egypt in 1979 and the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in 1982.

A thickset figure of medium height and with piercing blue eyes, he was given the ancient Berber warrior's title of "supreme fighter" by his people in recognition of the battles which marked his long political career before and after the independence for which he struggled.

Many could not envisage Tunisia without him. He himself once said: "It is not easy to replace a man like me. I have created a nation... around me, around my person, and I want this nation to consolidate itself around a durable state."

His highly personalised rule created a problem of succession. Bourguiba decreed in 1975 that the country's prime minister should automatically succeed to the presidency.

His second wife, Wassila, whom he banished in January 1986 after a reported row over an anti-corruption inquiry, had other ideas.

Habib Bourguiba, architect of modern Tunisia

An influential figure behind the scenes for nearly 25 years, she made no secret of her desire to make Bourguiba's succession more democratic, favouring quick presidential elections, with a list of candidates in the event of his death or incapacitation.

In August 1986, when she was in her mid-seventies, Bourguiba divorced her on the grounds, a presidential communique said, that she had made statements "without the president's knowledge and authorisation which violated the constitution."

There was no official confirmation, however, that this referred to Wassila's views on the succession.

A moderate Socialist and founder of the ruling Destourian Socialist Party, Bourguiba was a pragmatist in both domestic and foreign policy. But he never hid his anti-Communist or pro-American sympathies.

He often warned Arab states against seeking Soviet help against Israel saying, "one can rid oneself of the French or the English but not of the Russians."

In 1965 a storm greeted his suggestion that Arab states should recognise Israel within United Nations-defined boundaries in exchange for land to accommodate Palestinian refugees.

After Arab demonstrations against Tunisia, Bourguiba severed relations with Egypt. He restored them in 1967 but later reduced Tunisia's involvement in Middle East politics.

In 1974 he called off a merger with Libya and sacked Foreign Minister Mohammed Masmoudi, said to have masterminded the union long sought by Libya's leader Muammar Qaddafi.

Tunisian-Libyan relations plummeted in 1980 when Libyan-backed rebels attacked the southern town of Gafsa, helping push Tunisia into a treaty with Algeria and Mauritania. In 1985 Tunisia broke relations with Libya over mass expulsions of migrant workers.

At home, Bourguiba adopted a tolerant attitude towards religions other than Islam and, to some extent, political opponents. Multi-party elections were held in 1981 but the Destourian Party and its allies won all 136 par-

liamentary seats, evoking opposition accusations of vote-rigging which some senior officials privately said were not unfounded. Elections in 1986 were boycotted by the opposition.

Habib Ben Ali Bourguiba was born the youngest of eight children of an army officer in the coastal town of Monastir. His birth date is officially listed as August 3, 1903 though it is thought he might have been born a year earlier. The uncertainty is due to poorly-kept birth records.

He was educated at Tunisia's Sadiki College and Lycee Carnot before going to Paris to study law and political science. He returned home in 1927 to start a career as a lawyer but entered politics by writing articles for "The Voice of Tunisia," the organ of the Destourian Party.

In 1934 he, with other nationalists, caused a split in the party, set up his own "New Destourian Party" and founded the Tunisian action newspaper which has survived as the country's leading daily, *L'Action*.

Between 1934 and 1952 he was arrested and jailed by the colonial French authorities three times.

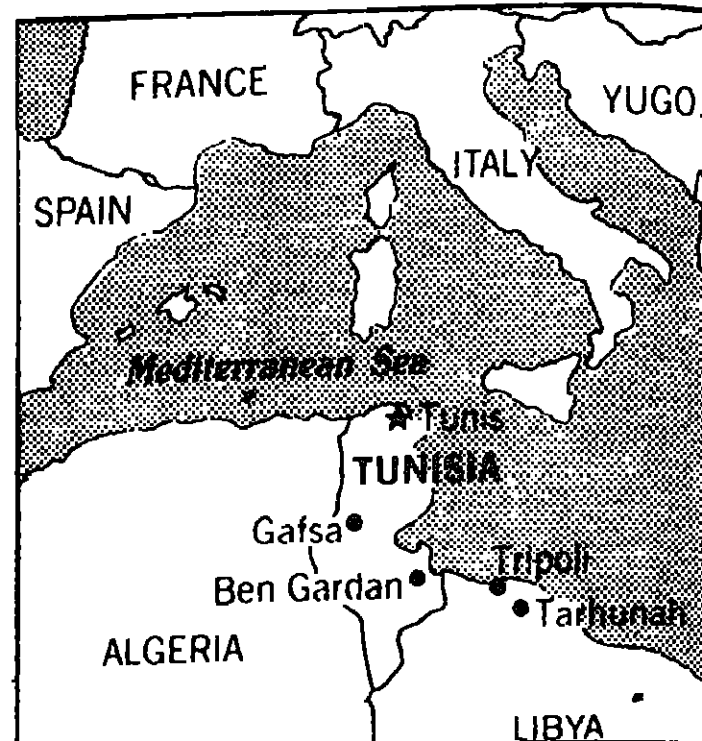
In 1943, being freed by the Germans who had occupied France, they sent him to Rome, where he demanded Italy recognise an independent Tunisia and urged his followers to back advancing allied forces in North Africa.

After the war he saw armed struggle as the only way to gain independence, was arrested again and jailed in France as Tunisian fighters launched a liberation war in the mountains.

When France granted Tunisia autonomy in 1955 Bourguiba returned home to a hero's welcome. He became prime minister on independence in March 1956, and was the only choice as president when the traditional ruler, the bey, was deposed in 1957.

Relations with France worsened over Tunisia's support for neighbouring Algeria's independence struggle in the late 1950s and when France bombed the Tunisian village of Sakiet Sidi Youssef killing 100.

They improved briefly when De Gaulle came to power in 1958 and Bourguiba was received in France in 1961 but plunged again over France's refusal to talk about evacuating a naval base at Bizerta, northern Tunisia.



Bourguiba ordered a blockade of the base which ended after three days of fighting with 1,000 Tunisians and 20 French dead. France eventually evacuated Bizerta in 1963.

In 1927 Bourguiba married a French war widow who bore him a son, Habib Junior, who has held many ministerial posts. The marriage ended in divorce and Bourguiba married Wassila Ben Ammar.

Prime minister becomes president in Tunisia

By Charles Dica

Reuters

TUNIS — Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, who declared himself president of Tunisia on Saturday, is an army security specialist and one of the few generals to have reached high office in Tunisian politics.

Ben Ali, named prime minister only on October 2, took over from 84-year-old Habib Bourguiba, the president for the past 30 years, saying Bourguiba's advancing age and senility made him unfit to govern.

The 51-year-old general became interior minister last year as then-Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali slid into disgrace.

A member of Bourguiba's inner circle of cabinet ministers received daily at the presidential palace, he presided over a crackdown this year on Islamic fundamentalists accused of plotting to overthrow the government with Iranian help.

The crackdown resulted in a diplomatic break with Iran and a mass trial in which death sentences were passed last month on two prisoners and five fugitives.

In initial recognition of his work, Bourguiba promoted Ben Ali from minister to minister of state at the interior ministry in May.

Ben Ali, whose black hair only lightly flecked with grey emphasises his youthful looks, did part of his military training in France and the United States.

He first exchanged his soldier's uniform for civilian dress in 1977, when he was named director of national security at the interior ministry by then-Prime Minister Hedi Nouira.

He was therefore one of the central figures in coordinating police and army action against demonstrations the following year, in which at least 51 people died following a bitter union-government clash.

Having made a name as a

tough enforcer of law and order, a policy he pledged to follow when he was made prime minister, Ben Ali was promoted to the rank of general in 1979. But his career faltered the following year, when he was eased out of central government to become ambassador to Poland.

Mzali recalled him to his old national security job in 1984 after riots sparked by an overnight doubling of bread prices. At least 89 people died in the disturbances.

He was named secretary of state in charge of national security later that year before becoming interior minister in April, 1986.

Two months later he was appointed a deputy secretary-general of the ruling Destourian Socialist Party and secretary-general when he was made prime minister.

A disciplinarian with a passion for hard work, Ben Ali obtained his military grounding in the elite



Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali

French college at Saint Cyr. He went there with the flower of the young Tunisian military, shortly after independence from France in 1956.

He gained diplomas in the United States in military intelligence and security, as well as at artillery college, and became head of Tunisian military security. From 1974 to 1977 he was military attache in Morocco.

The execution of Mehdi Hashemi

By Scheherazade Daneshkhu

THE execution by firing squad on September 28 of Mehdi Hashemi, a prominent political figure in Tehran, is bound to have important and long-term implications for the government of Ayatollah Khomeini.

Hashemi's rise to power reeked of intrigue, murder and high political influence. Once he had established himself, it became clear that he would not abide by the rules of the game but pursued his own ambitions with a reckless disregard for the consequences. His crime did not consist of a single act but was the culmination of increasingly bold political and terrorist acts which began to undermine the government.

In 1975 when the shah was still in power, Hashemi was charged in Isfahan with leading a group that had murdered Ayatollah Shams-Abadi who had been a political and popular local cleric. The ayatollah had been an obstacle to Hashemi in his bid to gain control of Isfahan's clerical circles. Hashemi had already organised a group of thugs into an efficient, almost private, militia.

The Isfahan court sentenced him to death, but on appeal to the Tehran supreme court this was commuted to a life sentence. It was rumoured at the time that the supreme court had come under immense political pressure to revoke the death penalty. The implication was obvious: Hashemi was Savak's front-man planted within the religious opposition to the Shah.

During the 1979 Revolution, Hashemi was released from prison by the newly formed Islamic Republic and promptly set about organising a terrorist network first on a local level in Isfahan, then on a national level and soon on an international scale.

In Isfahan, Hashemi established close links with some of the hard-line mullahs. He then moved to Qom where he extended his network through theological schools. It was in Qom too that he found an ally in Ayatollah Mohammad Montazeri, the heir apparent to Ayatollah Khomeini. There was also a family connection since Hashemi's brother, Hadi, was Montazeri's son-in-law. Nevertheless, it is curious that Montazeri, who has often advocated moderate and at times liberal views, especially with regard to internal policy, should have chosen to associate himself so

closely with as lawless a man as Mehdi Hashemi. The reasons for this have yet to be explained.

In Tehran, Hashemi set up the World Organisation of Islamic Liberation Movements (WOLIM) which had close contacts with many terrorist organisations throughout the world. A conference for these movements was held in Tehran in 1980. Represented were members of the IRA, Action Directe, ETA and a number of Palestinian and other Arab organisations. A short bearded figure, Mehdi Hashemi ran around shaking hands with some of the most wanted men in the world. In the same year, the Iranian government abolished WOLIM and tried to crack down on Hashemi's activities. His public contact with terrorist groups was disapproved of, as were some of his self-proclaimed policies, such as the subsequent coup attempt in Bahrain in 1981. He was also responsible for several terrorist attacks through Lebanese groups in the Middle East and almost certainly in Europe too.

His most daring plan was the attempt during the 1986 pilgrimage to Mecca, to destabilise the Saudi monarchy when he tried to smuggle men, guns and explosives into the country. The crisis was averted after a tip-off by the Iranian foreign ministry to the Saudi intelligence service. Several weeks after the Mecca incident, Hashemi was arrested and imprisoned in Tehran. A few days later, the Lebanese newspaper, *Al-Shiraa*, published information about a trip by the former U.S. national security advisor, Robert MacFarlane, to Tehran. The news went un-noticed until the speaker of the Iranian Parliament, Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, in an astute political move, himself talked about the planeload of Irish diplomats, spare parts and chocolate cake. Irangate has been with us ever since.

Hashemi's attempt to undermine Ayatollah Montazeri's main rival, Rafsanjani, by implicating him in the U.S. arms deal had therefore backfired, in part because the deal must have been undertaken with Ayatollah Khomeini's knowledge. If not his approval.

In December 1986, an Iranian TV broadcast showed Hashemi confessing to murder as well as attempting to overthrow the gov-



ernment, something which he claimed Ayatollah Montazeri had also been aware of. The news exploded like a bombshell around Tehran. Demonstrations against Montazeri took place and the main national daily, *Kayhan*, published editorials against him.

For a while, it looked as if Khomeini's favourite public and loyal activist in his days of exile in Najaf, could be in serious trouble. In the event, Rafsanjani paid Montazeri a visit, the details of which are still not fully known, and after which Montazeri issued a statement disowning Hashemi. Though Montazeri has kept his official position as heir-designate, his political influence has never recovered.

Hashemi was brought on TV again in April this year when he confessed to more killings and conspiracies. He was tried, found guilty of being "corrupt on earth" and finally executed. It appears that the government most feared the independent organisation he had built around himself with its potential for destabilising the regime. He had created a state within a state and represented a threat to the government as a whole.

His refusal to work within the government framework and to recognise the limits that this imposed on him, is what finally cost

him his life, as much as his blatant and ruthless acts of terrorism.

Hashemi's conviction and execution have wide-ranging implications for the future direction of Iranian politics. Although his downfall was not simply part of a bout of factional infighting, since he had moved beyond and outside the factions within the government, the hardliners with whom he was originally associated will nevertheless suffer as a result. In the second week of October two of his collaborators were executed on charges of murder in Tehran and more heads may roll. Some of Hashemi's many associates and political allies in higher official circles have already been discreetly "dropped", while others have taken the hint and have resigned for a number of reasons.

The increasingly hostile policy of the U.S. towards Iran inevitably provokes a headline reaction within the country and radicalises the political atmosphere, but in the long term the pragmatists are likely to retain their advantage. It is for this reason that in years to come, Hashemi's execution may be seen as a turning point. The pragmatists showed him little mercy. But then he deserved none — Middle East International, London.

Arab heads of state arrive

(Continued from page 1)

Democratic Republic of Yemen, Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas said upon his arrival that he hoped the summit conferees would reach a common understanding on all important issues they considered. He said the summit will discuss "the important issues on the agenda that stem from the complicated and grave conditions prevailing in the Arab arena, as well as the historic challenges that face the entire Arab Nation."

"We have a total conviction in South Yemen that restoring Arab solidarity and reviving the spirit of joint Arab action is one of the main conditions for overcoming this difficult stage in the history of the Arab people," the South Yemeni leader said, adding that "we will exert all effort to actively and effectively contribute to this great task." "It is out of this conviction that we arrive in Amman to contribute, along with our brothers — the kings, presidents and Arab heads of state — towards the success of the summit," Mr. Attas said.

Sultan Qaboos of Oman said in a brief statement that he was optimistic that the Amman summit will be a turning point in joint Arab action and solidarity. "We are optimistic that our conference will be one of Arab awakening, in which the Arab Nation regains solidarity and achieves the ambitions and aspirations of its people," the Omani leader said.

"We are positive that the wisdom of our brother, His Majesty King Hussein, his sincere efforts and the active participation of our other Arab brothers will pave the way towards achieving our hopes and expectations," he added.

The Bahraini emir, Sheikh Issa, expressed hope that the summit would serve as "the main and essential vehicle for solving many of the contradictions in the Arab arena and for halting the deterioration we are witnessing."

He said that "the escalation of conflicts within the Arab family, and the growing dangers surrounding it day after day, demand us to rise above our differences and shoulder our pan-Arab responsibilities," Sheikh Issa said he hoped that the Amman summit resolutions would prompt "a move towards new horizons of joint Arab action and strengthen the role of the Arab League in support of efforts to establish a solid basis for inter-Arab relations, on a course that will involve regular Arab summits in the future and help find sound

solutions to all divisive issues." President of the Yemen Arab Republic Ali Abdullah Saleh said in his arrival statement that the Amman summit convenes at a time when "colonialist and Zionist forces assault the Arab Nation with the aim of weakening the Arab entity, shaking its ranks, compromising its national sovereignty and diverting its attention from its main cause of Palestine."

President Saleh said the Arab leaders should accept their responsibility "by responding to the dangerous escalation resulting from the Iran-Iraq war and the intensifying of the Zionist policy of oppression in the occupied Arab territories."

He said that the summit should also put an end to the Lebanese tragedy that almost sacrificed its unity and existence, in addition to mobilising all forces towards solving the central problem of Palestine. The North Yemeni leader urged Arab leaders to work harder towards securing "a suitable environment to clear the Arab atmosphere and find the level of solidarity required to enable the Arab Nation to confront all threats and conspiracies."

In an exclusive interview with Petra, President Gemayel said King Hussein's efforts to convene this large-scale Arab conference should certainly result in more Arab solidarity, in light of the critical conditions prevailing in the Arab World. Therefore, he said "all Arab heads of state are required to take a responsible stand in response to the various challenges and threats affecting the area."

Mr. Gemayel said that the hosting of the summit in Amman comes as a continuation to His Majesty's positive and sincere efforts in defending Arab causes.

The Lebanese president expressed hope that the Amman summit would give due attention to the situation in Lebanon, in a bid to end the strife there. We hope that the summit's discussions on the Lebanese problem will be fruitful. The Lebanese people have a right to depend on their Arab brethren to overcome the country's political and economic plight," he said.

Later in the day, a number of Arab leaders held bilateral meetings and consultations that were believed to have focused on issues on the summit's agenda and means to ensure the meeting's success.

Sheikh Zayed visited President Hussein at the place of his resi-

(Continued on page 9)

Agricultural fund marks 10 years of advances

By Thomas Eichler
USA

WASHINGTON — The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), founded in 1977, is unique among official aid agencies. It is small, with a staff of only 84 professionals; it focuses all of its attention and resources on the poorest of the poor, and it is emerging as a pioneer of new development techniques.

IFAD's president, Idriss Jazairy of Algeria, discussed his organization's ten year of work with reporters in the offices of the Overseas Development Council, a Washington-based private research institute, on October 30. Jazairy emphasized what makes IFAD's approach to development assistance different from that of other agencies — its concentration on the rural poor. "We do not believe that the poor and the hungry should wait for the benefits of overall economic development to trickle down to them," he said. "Our projects are carefully designed to be targeted to reach directly smallholder farmers, poor rural women, landless and other marginal groups in rural society."

A prime example is the Grameen Bank of Bangladesh. Started as a pilot project in one

district, it was expanded with IFAD support to five others and now reaches out to nearly 3,000 villages. It makes small loans of \$50 or less to help individuals improve their farm production or to get started in income-producing business. The programme has now become a nationwide permanent institution in Bangladesh. Over 215,000 borrowers — 70 per cent of them women — have benefited.

The innovative aspect of the Grameen Bank project is that it grants credit to those — the rural poor — who had never before been thought creditworthy, particularly because they had no collateral. Instead, the poor were required to form themselves into five-member groups that were jointly responsible for repayment. The repayment rate on these loans, at terms of 13 per cent a year with repayment over 50 weeks, is said to be 99 per cent.

In Djibouti, IFAD initiated a programme to build up the barely existing fishing industry, which offered a promising way to bolster the food supply of a desert country where only about one per cent of the land is tillable. IFAD funds were used to help organize a cooperative that took over responsibility for catching, storing, processing and selling fish. New

boats were ordered, storage facilities built, ice-making machinery installed, and trucks purchased to speed the fish to market. After four and a half years, the cooperative has 260 members, and the country's annual fish catch has risen from 180 tons to 600 tons.

IFAD also supports research, but unlike that which led to the "green revolution." The latter was focused on raising wheat and rice production by developing strains that were responsive to relatively expensive inputs of irrigation and fertilizer. Much of IFAD-supported research, Jazairy said, concentrates on traditional crops such as cassava, maize, plantains, sorghum and fava beans, and on the development of systems for semi-arid regions.

The aim of IFAD-supported research is to work with plants that form part of the everyday diet of millions of poor people, and to breed varieties that will grow well with a minimum of inputs under difficult soil and climatic conditions.

"Our projects for smallholder farmers, especially in Africa, have started to convince skeptics that smallholder farmers and the rural poor generally are a huge, untapped source of economic growth," Jazairy said. "The smallholders can grow more food to reduce overall

food deficits, generate employment and provide markets for the work of others."

Plans for the formation of IFAD got underway at the World Food Conference in 1974, called to develop international responses to the devastating food shortages then facing parts of the world. IFAD was, and remains, funded primarily by joint contributions from the oil-exporting and the industrial countries. Beneficiary countries also contribute, and each of the three groups of countries has equal voting rights in determining IFAD policy.

IFAD has provided \$2,300 million in concessional loans and over \$100 million in technical assistance grants since its founding. That money has gone into 204 projects in 89 countries, at a total cost of about \$9,500 million, demonstrating the catalytic impact of its efforts. For every dollar that IFAD has provided for development work, other donors and the recipient countries themselves have provided three dollars.

IFAD has been a catalyst in other ways. John Mellor, head of the International Food Policy Research Institute, also based in Washington, told reporters at the same session that IFAD's innovative projects have pointed the

way for agricultural development work by other organizations. IFAD projects have served as a testing ground in many cases, he said, helping to guide more conservative institutions in channeling their development resources.

In 1986 IFAD launched a special programme to assist sub-Saharan African countries — one of the first tangible expressions of the international community's concerns about the situation in the region, Jazairy pointed out. The programme has a financial target of \$300 million, and so far has received \$250 million. Eight projects have already been approved under the special programme.

A key feature of IFAD's approach, Jazairy emphasized, is the importance given to developing the entrepreneurial capacity of the beneficiaries of its projects. He pointed to IFAD support for fishery cooperatives in Yemen Peoples Democratic Republic that have grown into independent commercial enterprises which handle the whole process from fish catching to retail selling.

"Only a little imagination is required, combined with the political will, to translate into reality the rhetoric which is used so often about the hungry and the poor to help bring about a world in which hunger would only be a bad memory," he said.

Naturally occurring substances protect against radiation, cancer drugs

By Paul Raeburn
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A treatment using hormone-like substances found naturally in humans can protect against some of the worst consequences of radiation exposure and cancer treatment, scientists say.

Similar therapy also may minimize the side effects of AZT, the only drug approved for AIDS treatment, said Dr. Stephen Creekmore of the National Cancer Institute.

Radiation, many cancer chemotherapy agents and AZT can interfere with the bone marrow's ability to produce certain white cells that are essential in the fight against infections, the researchers said.

The new treatment stimulates damaged bone marrow to resume production of the infection-fighting white cells called neutrophils, said the study's principal author, Dr. Malcolm Moore of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Centre.

In an interview on Nov. 2, Moore said the treatment consists of combined injections of granulocyte colony stimulating factor, or G-CSF, and interleukin-1, or IL-1.

Both substances, which occur in small amounts in the body,

were produced in larger quantities through genetic engineering. Moore and others have shown previously that G-CSF can boost the bone marrow's production of neutrophils.

The new study, reported in the current issue of the proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, shows that IL-1 can produce a similar effect in laboratory animals and that the effect is even

greater when both substances are combined.

If such drugs prove successful in human trials that are now beginning, their principal use would be with cancer patients receiving chemotherapy or radiation treatment and with people suffering from other bone-marrow diseases.

Such drugs also could serve as a treatment for people exposed to radiation at their jobs or as the result of nuclear war, Moore said.

Creekmore, who oversees federal funding of research on such drugs, said that the drugs could serve as a kind of first aid for people exposed to radiation.

"With these drugs, maybe one could make the bone marrow come back," he said.

Furthermore, Creekmore pointed out that one of the major problems with use of AZT in the treatment of acquired immune deficiency syndrome is its harmful effect on the bone marrow.

Treatments similar to those being developed by Moore and researchers at other institutions could allow wider use of AZT, Creekmore said.

A drug similar to those being studied by Moore was reportedly used recently to treat two victims of accidental radiation exposure in Brazil and was credited with saving their lives.

Dr. David Nathan, physician-in-chief at Children's Hospital in Boston, said he was familiar with Moore's research and finds it "quite sound."

"His work that he's done here is extremely interesting and important," said Nathan, whose specialty is treatment of children with blood disorders. "I think it's important to point out, however, that it's going to take a lot of

clinical investigation to determine in which patients it's going to be effective. ...I must say I'm hopeful."

Initial trials of G-CSF at Sloan-Kettering in patients with advanced, spreading bladder cancer have shown that it effectively prevents the severe bone-marrow suppressions associated with the intensive chemotherapy those patients require, Moore said.

"The next phase of the study will be to demonstrate that this adjunct therapy will translate into higher remission rates and presumably higher instance of cures," he said.

In the new study, Moore and colleague David Warren gave a standard anti-cancer drug called 5-fluorouracil to mice, then treated some of the mice with G-CSF, some with IL-1 and some with both.

The anti-cancer drug eliminated most of the neutrophils in the mice. In mice that received no further treatment, the neutrophils did not begin to return until about 12 days later, Warren said.

Mice given G-CSF began to recover from the anti-cancer drug in six days, or about half the time, Warren said. Mice given IL-1 did likewise, with the added benefit that their neutrophil counts never dropped as low as did the counts of the other animals.

When mice were given a combination of both drugs, their neutrophil counts began to recover at about the same time as when given either drug alone, but the neutrophil counts climbed faster, Warren said.

Human trials with combined agents may begin as early as January, Moore said.

Magic endures in an age of electronic wizardry

By Doris Frankel
Reuter

LOCH SHELDRAKE, New York — Harry Blackstone appeared and disappeared in his father's magic act so often that he learned the art of illusion from the inside looking out.

Now Blackstone, whose father had a keen professional rivalry with legendary escape artist Harry Houdini, digs into the family bag of tricks to demonstrate that traditional magic endures even in an age of electronic wizardry.

"People want to believe in magic, they want to believe in something that is not part of the ordinary, everyday experience," said Blackstone, whose repertoire includes a dancing handkerchief, a vanished bird cage and a floating light bulb.

Blackstone, tall and with a

goatee beard, spoke to Reuters at a recent pre-halloween convention in New York State which brought together 1,700 professional and amateur magicians from all over the world.

They included Rovi the wizard of Wales, who does card and coin tricks, Jeff McBride, an avant-garde American magician, and Hans Moretti, a West German escape artist.

"Right now, magic is in its heyday. I think that it is still on the upswing," he said in a deep voice that easily overcame the clatter in the hotel dining room. "I was born into magic," the 53-year-old conjurer said.

Blackstone's father, who died in 1965 at the age of 80, had one of the largest travelling magic shows in the United States. For the finale of a White House performance for President Calvin

Coolidge, he pulled from his pocket a gun belonging to an embarrassed presidential bodyguard.

"Houdini was an escape artist, my father was an illusionist and both were considered each to be top of their fields. All through Houdini's life till his demise in 1926 they were good personal friends but rather bitter professional enemies," Blackstone said.

One family trademark trick is the floating light bulb. Blackstone removes a bulb from a lamp, and it remains suspended — and lit — in mid-air.

"I pass a hoop around it to show that there is nothing there that supports it. Like my brother-in-law — no visible means of support," he said.

The bulb floats over to the audience for inspection and then

returns to the magician.

Blackstone, like most magicians, jealously guards the secrets of his illusions. But he does admit that several things went awry in his performance the previous night, although he would not elaborate.

"What we magicians try to do is learn to cope with that kind of disaster. When the philosophers said, 'If anything can go wrong it will go wrong and always at the worst possible moment,' they were speaking about a magic show."

He pauses and turns to his attractive wife, Gay, who is also his stage assistant. He boasts of the many times he has sawed her in half with a buzz-saw.

"She is now five feet one inch, and she started at five feet 10. We get a little piece out of her each time."

Asked what he considers his

trademark, Blackstone replies: "Humour and the fact that we get rebuked."

Although Blackstone grew up in magic, for several years he worked as a disc jockey, a radio announcer, a campaign aide for Lyndon Johnson and an associate producer for a popular television comedy show.

"For a number of years I was in broadcasting, journalism and politics. I found that experience gave me the perfect understanding of the art of deception," said Blackstone.

"The magician tells you ahead of time he's going to get you. The faith healer gets you while he's doing it. You don't find out the politician has got you until it's too late."

"So I am storyteller," Blackstone said. "I am an actor who specialises in this character of being a magician."

Toledo seeks new inhabitants to save old city

By Frances Kerry
Reuter

TOLEDO, Spain — Toledo, medieval Spanish cradle of Islamic, Jewish and Christian cultures, is desperately seeking new inhabitants.

The old city's star tourist attractions — the mosque, synagogues, gothic cathedral and painter El Greco's house — are safely preserved among its 45 listed monuments.

But around them, old houses are crumbling.

"In 10 to 15 years, this could be a dead city," Mayor Jose Manuel Molina told Reuters. Perched impressively on a hill above the River Tagus, the ochre-coloured walled quarter — a medieval and renaissance metropolis of clerics, scholars and artists — is fast losing inhabitants to the modern outskirts on the plain below.

Parts of the winding maze of narrow streets are virtually unchanged in layout from 11th-cen-

tury plans. But solid wooden doors are rotting and ornate facades are falling apart. Whole streets are uninhabited.

"If we don't act now it will be too late — the old quarter will become a collection of monuments in a desert," Molina said.

Molina, who is heading a campaign to keep old Toledo alive, said the most urgent need was to preserve what he called a unique 100-hectare monument was for more inhabitants.

The city council estimates that 300 to 500 people are leaving the old quarter every year.

The total population of Toledo, 90 kilometres south of Madrid and capital of the olive-growing, sheep-farming region of Castilla la Mancha, has nearly doubled to 61,000 in 1987 from 33,000 in 1940.

This was partly due to a large industrial complex built outside Toledo in the 1960s.

But since 1940 the population of the old quarter has dropped to 15,000 from 21,000 and left more

than 1,000 of its 8,000 dwellings uninhabited.

Big shops and businesses also went down the road, leaving the old quarter with just city and regional administrative offices, small grocery stores, souvenir stalls and cafes.

Residents who stayed tend to be older — there are now more people over 65 years old than under 14 in the old quarter — or poorer than those who left, and either less energetic or less able to afford repairs.

"If a new generation of people don't come to the old city the houses will simply fall down," Molina said.

"Some houses are already starting to go — only the other day firemen had to be called in to shore up a baroque facade which was crumbling away."

Municipal architect Ignacio Alvarez Aledo said in a report that one reason for people leaving was that the old houses, although beautiful, were uninhabitable by modern standards.

Some have no bathrooms or awkward Moorish style designs which mean crossing an open patio to get from one bedroom to another.

Molina says the houses can be modernised without spoiling their style.

He reckons the cost of rejuvenating old Toledo would be around \$78 million.

Some of the money would be spent on restoration and repairs and the rest on improving the old quarter's public transport, parking facilities and other infrastructure to attract residents and businesses.

The council's hoped-for new inhabitants are young families — who would use cheap loans to buy up modernised old houses. But the council says it is financially stretched just keeping up with repairs to roads, bridges and walls.

Looking for funds, Molina

took the architect's report to the United States last month, talking to the International Council on Monuments and Sites, a United Nations affiliate, and to three private conservation funds.

Molina says funds could also flow indirectly from visitors, if they spent more money and time in Toledo.

About 1.5 million tourists visit the old city every year. But because it makes a convenient day trip from Madrid, they tend to rush round the monuments, buy souvenirs and leave. Few stay the night.

The city has only 800 hotel beds. Molina said he would like to see more hotels, more cultural activity and more reason for tourists to want to spend a night.

"We could make Toledo a more attractive place at night, for example with a sound and light show," he said.

"Or a casino, perhaps."



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Summits and 23 years of joint Arab action

By P.V. Vivekanand

THE FIRST Arab Summit was held in Cairo in January 1964. It was called for and chaired by the late President of Egypt, Jamal Abdul Nasser. The central theme of discussions at the summit was Israel's moves to appropriate waters of the River Jordan. The summit took a number of decisions aimed at foiling the Israeli plans.

The second summit was held in the same year in Alexandria, Egypt, in September. The conference called for employing all Arab resources in the service of the Palestinian cause and welcomed the establishment of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) under the chairmanship of the late Ahmad Al Shukairi.

The Moroccan city of Casablanca hosted the third Arab summit, held in September 1965. The most significant decision taken at the summit was the endorsement of the Arab solidarity charter signed by Arab leaders on Sept. 15, 1965.

Sudan hosted the fourth Arab summit in Khartoum in 1967, three months after the Arab-Israeli war. The focus of the conference was charting a course in the aftermath of the war. Syria stayed away from the summit. The conference called for a series of measures to support the Arab states that suffered badly in the June war.

Morocco hosted the fifth Arab summit in Rabat in 1969. Many observers see the Rabat conference as a failure since it did not produce any significant Arab decision. A vague communique issued at the end of the meeting called for mobilisation of Arab

states in the confrontation with Israel.

For the next four years, inaction gripped the Arab scene and it was not until 1973 the sixth Arab summit was held. The gathering in Algiers, shortly after the Arab-Israeli war of the same year, the Arab leaders drew up a two-phase plan for peace in the Middle East. It called for total Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Implied in the proposal was an offer to recognise Israel in return for its withdrawal and its acceptance of the Palestinian rights.

One year after the Algiers summit, Arab leaders met again in Rabat. The 1974 summit produced the total endorsement by all Arab states of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Civil war broke out in Lebanon in 1975 and as it threatened to assume much graver proportions, Arab leaders held a summit in Cairo in 1976. The Oct. 25-26 conference called for the 1969 Cairo agreement signed between the Lebanese government and the Palestinian resistance forces. The summit also endorsed the setting up of a special fund to support the Arab deterrent force (ADF) which was charged with keeping peace in Lebanon after separating the civil war combatants.

The late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat initiated moves towards a separate peace agreement with Israel in 1977 and Arab leaders held the ninth Arab summit in Baghdad in 1978. The Nov. 2-5 conference in the Iraqi capital discussed the Camp David

accord between Egypt and Israel. It rejected the accord and suspended Egypt from the Arab League, recommending that all Arab states sever diplomatic ties with Cairo. The conference also decided that oil-producing Arab states will offer financial aid totalling \$30 billion to Jordan, Syria and the PLO in the course of the next 10 years to help them confront Israel.

Tunisia hosted the 10th Arab summit from Nov. 2-5, 1979. All Arab states except Egypt attended the summit. The final communique of the summit noted that the Baghdad summit resolutions had a positive impact on the Arab as well as international scenes in the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict and vowed to continue the Arab struggle to liberate the occupied territories.

The 11th Arab summit was held in Amman in response to a call by Jordan. The conference, which was not attended by Syria, the PLO, Lebanon, South Yemen and Libya, was devoted to aspects of Arab economic integration and came to be known as the Amman Economic Summit. No major political decisions were adopted at the summit, but it set certain guidelines for increased Arab economic cooperation and called for a series of measures to achieve Arab economic integration.

It was not until two years later, three months after the July 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, that the next Arab summit was held in the Moroccan city of Fez. An initial summit was adjourned because of highlighted inter-Arab differences. However, the summit was reconvened shortly afterwards. The conference

produced the famous Fez peace plan under which all Arab states called for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and Gaza with Jerusalem as its capital and enshrined the principle of "security of all states in the region", this implicitly offering Arab recognition of Israel in return for Israel's acceptance of Palestinian rights and withdrawal from the occupied territories.

An extraordinary Arab summit was held in Casablanca, Morocco, in August 1985 to discuss joint Jordan-PLO moves towards peace with Israel. Jordan explained its strategy towards settling the problem to the Arab leaders at the summit. Most Arab states endorsed the joint moves undertaken by Jordan and the PLO towards bringing about the convening of an international conference under U.N. auspices with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The summit that opens on Sunday is yet another extraordinary Arab summit which was decided upon by the foreign ministers of the Arab League. The original call for the summit stipulated that the main agenda for talks at the conference was to be the Iran-Iraq war, but subsequent developments made it necessary that "all issues of concern to the common interests of the Arab World" would be discussed by the summit.

The next regular Arab summit, the 13th such gathering, is expected to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. But there has been no definite sign of movement towards convening it.

Arab summit resolutions (1946-1985)

THE ARAB League information and documentation centre has issued a book entitled "Arab summit resolutions 1946-1985." The book, according to its authors, serves as a documentation for the history of political events, challenges, dangers and threats the Arab World had faced and the historic resolutions and agreements agreed upon by Arab leaders. The following is a summary of the book, which the Jordan Times publishes on the occasion of the convening today of the extraordinary Arab summit in Amman. The summary was prepared by Dr. Hussein Toga of the University of Jordan's Centre for Strategic Studies:

The Arab League

FOLLOWING bilateral consultations between Arab officials in 1943, and 1944, a preparatory committee that included representatives of Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon met in Alexandria. They signed "The Alexandria Protocol" on Oct. 7, 1944 that established the Arab League organisation. On March 22, 1945, representatives of these countries signed with the Saudi Arabian delegate the Arab League Charter and the day became a national occasion celebrated by all member states.

setting conflicts that may arise among member states by peaceful means.

c) Withdrawing the membership of any member state that does not fulfil its duties according to the charter.

f) Amending the charter with the approval of Arab states with the aim of strengthening ties among members and the establishment of an Arab court of justice and organising the league's ties with international organisations.

The Arab summits

The secretariat general of the Arab League, considers the meeting of Arab leaders in Cairo between Jan. 13 and 17, 1964 as the first Arab summit. It also considers the Anshas summit of May 28, 1946, and the Beirut summit of Nov. 14 of the same year as Arab summits without numbering them. Since the conditions and socio-political elements that called for convening each Arab summit were different from the other we find that some Arab summits have issued resolutions and statements while other summits issued only resolutions while others issued closing statements. Thus, we will review these summits and the conditions and causes that called for their convening and review the main resolutions and statements issued at these summits:

1. The Anshas summit resolutions, May 28-29, 1946

a) Helping colonised Arab people to gain their independence.
b) The Palestine cause is the central national cause.
c) Recognising the threat of Zionism.
d) Outlining the minimum acceptable solution for the protection of Palestine's Arabism.
e) Disrespect for Palestine's Arabs is an act of aggression against Arab League members.
f) Defending the Palestine entity in the case of an attack.
g) Helping Palestine's Arabs through financial means.
h) Helping Palestine's Arabs.
i) The importance of achieving independence for western Tripoli.

j) The need to be able to confront the enemy.
— No closing statement was issued after the conference.

2. The Beirut summit, Nov. 13-14, 1956

A summit was held in Beirut to study the situation in the aftermath of the tripartite British-French-Israeli aggression against Egypt and the Gaza Strip and to agree on what to be done to support Egypt's defence of its lands and sovereignty, considering this aggression against Egypt as an aggression on all Arab states calling for united policies and efforts towards joint Arab interests.

The Beirut summit resolutions were the following:

a) Supporting Egypt against the tripartite aggression.
b) Egypt's sovereignty is the



Representatives of the seven original member states announce the birth of the Arab League in Cairo on March 22, 1945 (File photo)

basis of solving Egypt's cause.
c) Supporting the struggle of the Algerian people.
d) A salute to Egypt and its leader.

3. The first Arab summit — Cairo, Jan. 13-17, 1964

Believing in the just Palestinian cause and realising its gravity and with determination to return the stolen rights to its people and considering the establishment of Israel as the main threat that the Arab Nation has vowed to avert, and emanating from the actual participation in joint constructive efforts that would unite the Arabs, the first Arab summit expresses its satisfaction that its meetings have resulted in a consensus by Arab leaders to end their differences and clear the Arab atmosphere from all impurities and halt all media campaigns. The summit has decided that:

a) The establishment of Israel is a major threat that needs to be confronted politically, economically and by means of the media.
b) On the military side: The establishment of a United Arab leadership.
c) On the technical side: The establishment of an organisation to exploit the Jordan River waters and its arteries.
d) On the financial side: Investment in water projects through the contribution of Arab states.
e) The establishment of sound basis to organise the Palestinian people.
f) Establishing a follow up committee for execution.
g) The summit is to be held on a regular basis.

The closing statement: The council of kings and presidents of the Arab League met at a summit in Cairo at the suggestion of Mr. Jamal Abdul Nasser, the president of the United Arab Republic. They studied the continuing threats and repeated aggressions practised by Israel since its eve-

tion of the Arab Palestinian people from their land and the establishment of a colonialist occupation authority which practises racial discrimination against the Arab minority and insists on ignoring United Nations resolutions emphasising this people's natural right to return to its homeland and disrespecting repeated condemnations by the organs of the international organisation.

After discussing what Israel intends to do by its aggression on Arab waters by diverting the River Jordan and the great damage it would do to the rights of Arabs using these waters, with the aim of achieving expansionist Zionist designs by increasing forces of aggression and establishing new threats to Arab world security. The statement called for fulfilling the duty of legitimate defence, the Palestinian Arab people's sacred right to self-determination and liberation from Zionist colonialism, and determined that Arab solidarity is the only means to confront colonialist ambitions and achieving just Arab interests and raising the living standard for all.

The statement goes on to reiterate resolutions taken at the last summit.

The second Arab summit — Alexandria, Sept. 5-11, 1964

Resolutions:
a) An Arab action plan for the eventual liberation of Palestine.
b) On the defence side: Beginning the execution of projects to exploit Jordan River waters and providing military protection for these projects and the contribution of member states in financing.
c) The Palestinian entity: Welcoming the establishment of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and considering it a representative of the Palestinian people.
d) The military organisation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation: supporting the establish-

ment of the Palestine Liberation Army.

e) Arab projects to exploit Jordan River waters.
f) Working to unite the efforts of nationalists in the occupied south and offering them assistance.

g) Fighting the British colonialism in the Arabian peninsula.
h) Arab cooperation in the nuclear field for peaceful purposes.
i) Arab cooperation in the economic, cultural and legal fields.
j) Information matters: Estab-

lishing an information policy.
k) Setting a forthcoming summit.

l) Ruling out the idea of establishing a narrow political council.
The closing statement of this conference emphasised support for Arab solidarity, defining the national goals, confronting challenges, implementing Arab plans, welcoming the Palestine Liberation Organisation, backing its decisions by establishing the Palestine Liberation Army and organising Arab-international relations. A position towards Britain in the occupied south and the Arab peninsula, supporting Arab Gulf Emirates in addition to sup-

porting the united Arab leadership.

prime ministers.

g) The Palestinian entity: The establishment of the Palestine National Council.

h) The Palestine Liberation Army: Continuing its establishment and allocating funds for that purpose.

The closing statement included the following points:
A commitment to the Arab solidarity charter. Unity of Arab states and supporting the Palestine cause on the international and Arab levels. Supporting the occupied south (Aden) and the Arab Gulf. Continuing investment in Jordan River waters and supporting the united Arab lead-

ing an information policy.
k) Setting a forthcoming summit.

l) Ruling out the idea of establishing a narrow political council.
The closing statement of this conference emphasised support for Arab solidarity, defining the national goals, confronting challenges, implementing Arab plans, welcoming the Palestine Liberation Organisation, backing its decisions by establishing the Palestine Liberation Army and organising Arab-international relations. A position towards Britain in the occupied south and the Arab peninsula, supporting Arab Gulf Emirates in addition to sup-

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porting united Arab action within the league and supporting economic cooperation and backing Arab Maghreb countries. Establishing an Arab council for nuclear research and setting up an Arab court of justice and the institutionalising of a regular Arab summit in September and the continuation of the work of the follow up committee. Belief in African-Asian solidarity and the growth of African unity. Stressing that the causes of people as a whole which cannot be divided, with a stress on the struggle of African peoples and international cooperation and peace and liquidating colonialist bases and clarifying the duties of the Arab citizen.

The third Arab summit — Casablanca, Sept. 13-17, 1965

a) Endorsing the council of foreign ministers' report.
b) Taking note of the league secretary general's report.
c) Supporting Arab solidarity: The text of the Arab solidarity charter.
d) Reviewing current international situations.
e) On the technical side: The joint Arab project for the investment of the Jordan River waters.
f) A meeting of the council of

prime ministers.

g) The Palestinian entity: The establishment of the Palestine National Council.

h) The Palestine Liberation Army: Continuing its establishment and allocating funds for that purpose.

The closing statement included the following points:
A commitment to the Arab solidarity charter. Unity of Arab states and supporting the Palestine cause on the international and Arab levels. Supporting the occupied south (Aden) and the Arab Gulf. Continuing investment in Jordan River waters and supporting the united Arab lead-

ing an information policy.
k) Setting a forthcoming summit.

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ership, calling for halting the use of force in the world and solving problems by peaceful means and helping the success of the Asian-African conference in Algiers and adopting a united policy towards it. A call for a steady Arab position towards Africa and against Israeli infiltration there and in Asia and demanding the liquidation of foreign bases and backing disarmament and banning the spread of nuclear weapons and the importance of strengthening the United Nations.

The fourth Arab summit — Khartoum, Aug. 29-Sept. 1, 1967

a) Stressing the unity of Arab ranks.
b) Removing the results of occupation.
c) No reconciliation, no negotiations with Israel and no recognition.
d) Continuing oil supplies.
e) The establishment of the economic and social development fund.
f) Supporting military preparation.
g) Expediting the liquidation of foreign bases.
h) A commitment in funds for the removal of the results of aggression.

e) In the field of Arab information: Contributing to the Arab information fund and establishing information committees.

f) Institutionalising regular Arab summits.

g) Setting follow up systems and ministerial delegations to explain the Arab cause.

h) Inter-Arab relations: Purging and protecting them.

A special resolution was issued to thank Algiers for hosting the summit in addition to the inclusion of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in the Arab League and the subscription of Arab states to the Arab Bank for industrial and Agricultural De-

velopment in Africa.

A statement was addressed to Africa, to the non-aligned member states, to Socialist countries and another to West European states.

The summit's closing statement included the establishment of the principle of the inadmissibility of forcing a solution on member states, and the conditions for achieving security and peace. The statement also said that the October war is the inevitable result of the policy of aggression and condemned the policies of colonialist countries collaborating with Israel. It warned against Zionist threats to national liberation movements in the region. It stressed the solid Arab will and hailed the October war and the growing awareness of the Arab Nation. The statement warned from Israel's political threats to peace and international cooperation. It imposed conditions for peace and called for serious discussions and the continuation of the war of liberation.

The summit discussed latest developments in the Arab and international arenas and the ways to confront the enemy. Meeting heard opinions by Arab kings and presidents and their statements. The following resolutions were adopted:

a) Defining the Arab Nation's aims and adopting the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

b) In the military field: Solidarity and support of the front by financial and military means.

c) In the economic field: Supporting economic ties and employing oil in the battle and guaranteeing steadfastness.

d) In the political field:

1. African countries: The establishment of an Arab-African bank for industrial and agricultural

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c) In the economic field: Supporting economic ties and employing oil in the battle and guaranteeing steadfastness.

d) In the political field:

Arab summit resolutions (1946-1985)

(Continued from page 6)

tions, the seventh Arab summit decided that:

a) The provisional goal of the Arab Nation: Liberation and a commitment to restore the rights of the Palestinian people.

b) Enhancing the basis of the joint Arab action.

c) The Palestine Liberation Organisation is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

d) On the political level: 1. Strengthening ties with international organisations and forums.

2. Presenting the Palestine cause in the 29th session of the United Nations General Assembly as a separate item.

e) On the military level: Securing the annual needs to support confrontation states and their armies.

f) Amending the league charter: Agreement on its amendment and forming a committee.

g) Arab-African relations:

1. Holding an Arab-African summit.

2. Agreement on a system for the Arab fund for technical assistance to Arab and African states.

h) Increasing Euro-Arab dialogue.

i) Economic assistance to both republics of Yemen.

j) Enhancing inter-Arab economic relations.

k) Following up on resolutions on the organisational level.

l) Uniting the Arab position on the Western Sahara problem.

m) Helping Somalia and Mauritania.

n) Determining the date and venue of the forthcoming Arab summit.

o) Thanking Morocco for hosting the summit.

The six-member extraordinary Arab summit — Riyadh, Oct. 16-18, 1976

At the initiative of Saudi King Khalid Bin Abdul Aziz and Kuwait's Emir Sheikh Sabah Salem Sabah, the summit was convened in Riyadh and the following resolutions were issued, calling for:

a) A ceasefire in all Lebanese territories.

b) Supporting Arab security forces in Lebanon.

c) Returning life to normal in Lebanon.

d) The implementation of the Cairo agreement.

e) Stressing the PLO's respect of Lebanon's sovereignty.

f) An Arab pledge to respect Lebanon's sovereignty.

g) An Arab commitment to the Algiers and Rabat summit resolutions.

h) Directing information policies to promote a spirit of brotherhood.

i) Considering the annex of resolutions as a supplement.

The annex includes a ceasefire declaration and an end of fighting in all Lebanese territories and the setting up of observation points consisting of peacekeeping security forces. It orders the withdrawal of armed militias, the confiscation of heavy weapons and the removal of the armed presence such as barricades; and the take over by the legitimate Lebanese authorities of all civil and military installations in the country. The needed forces would be established to guarantee the implementation of the Cairo agreement.

The closing statement covers a number of resolutions such as the announcement of a ceasefire in Lebanon. Supporting Arab security forces in the country, a rejection of the division of Lebanon in addition to the establishment of an Arab committee for the implementation of the Cairo agreement and the acceptance of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and an agreement for the reconstruction of Lebanon.

The eighth Arab summit — Cairo, Oct. 25-26, 1976

After studying the situation in Lebanon and the outcome of the six-member Arab extraordinary summit in Riyadh, Arab leaders decided on the following:

a) An endorsement of resolutions adopted at the last Riyadh summit and the reconstruction of Lebanon.

b) Stressing a commitment to Arab solidarity.

c) Establishing a fund to finance Arab security forces in Lebanon.

d) Renewing the appointment of the Arab League secretary general.

e) A decision thanking Egypt for hosting the summit.

The closing statement included a welcoming of the outcome of the six-member summit in Riyadh and an emphasis on the solidarity between the Lebanese and Palestinian people within a framework safeguarding the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon and the unity of its territories. It pointed with concern to the situation in South Lebanon with a stress on the need for the implementation of the Cairo agreement. A mutual pledge of non-interference in internal affairs, the removal of all causes for conflict in Lebanon in addition to supporting Arab solidarity and halting the steadfastness of Arabs in occupied territories and appealing to world nations to condemn Israeli aggression.

The ninth Arab summit conference — Baghdad, Nov. 2-5, 1978

Arab leaders agreed to the following:

a) The conference's non-acceptance of the Camp David agreements.

b) Uniting Arab efforts in order to redress the Arab strategic disorder.

c) Calling on Egypt to revoke the Camp David agreements.

d) Supporting the northern front and the Palestine Liberation Organisation and allocating annual assistance for the organisation.

e) Adherence to the boycott basis.

f) Developing an Arab information policy.

g) Acknowledging international support for Arab causes.

h) Acknowledging the need to hold the summit on a regular basis.

i) Moving the headquarters of the Arab League and suspending Egypt's membership.

j) Implementing boycott laws on companies and individuals in Egypt dealing with Israel and distinguishing between the government and the people in Egypt.

k) Blessing the joint pan-Arab action charter between Iraq and Syria.

l) Approving the role of Palestinian people, Syria and Jordan in confronting the Zionist enemy.

m) The importance of ending the tragic situation in Lebanon.

n) Ending the boycott of the Popular Democratic Republic of Yemen.

o) Following up on the implementation of resolutions.

p) Thanking Iraq for hosting the summit.

The tenth Arab summit conference — Tunis, Nov. 20-22, 1979

After studying the draft agenda put forward by the preparatory conference of Arab foreign ministers between Nov. 15-17, 1979, Arab leaders decided that their agenda include the following:

— The Arab-Israeli conflict and developments ensuing from the ninth Arab summit conference of Baghdad and the strategy for joint Arab action for the coming period in all fields.

— The situation in Lebanon.

— Any new developments.

After discussing subjects on the agenda over three days, the conference reached the following resolutions:

a) Considering the speeches made by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba as part of the conference's official documents.

b) Agreeing to a strategy for



His Majesty King Hussein at the opening of the 11th Arab summit held in Amman in 1980 (File photo)

joint Arab action. Under this item, the conference approved an Arab League resolution which stipulates the following:

— Establishing a committee grouping representatives of the following Arab states: Jordan, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, the Palestine Liberation Organisation and representatives of the Arab League secretariat.

— The said committee would undertake to study the ideas and proposals included in the above documents and present a working paper and recommendations to the league council.

In implementation of the council's decision, the committee headed by the Tunisian delegation met and studied the working papers presented to the conference and after discussing them, tabled a joint working paper. Based on this paper, the conference issued the following resolutions:

a) Stressing the five basic principles that were reached by the ninth Arab summit conference.

b) An Arab commitment to struggle.

c) Taking the necessary measures against countries that restore relations with Israel or accept Jerusalem as the enemy's capital.

d) Stressing Arab condemnation of the Camp David accords.

e) Implementing boycott laws against the Egyptian regime.

f) Enhancing Arab military capabilities.

g) Expediting the amendment of the Arab League charter.

h) Stressing joint Arab action and collective Arab ties and denying Israel the Nile waters.

i) Enhancing relations with the Organisation of Islamic Conference, the Organisation of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement and the European Community and enhancing relations with Latin America and the Socialist bloc.

j) Establishing Arab ministerial committees to explain the Baghdad summit resolutions.

k) Condemning Washington's policies and explaining its dangers to the American public opinion.

l) Calling for the convening of an emergency meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.

m) Cooperating with Arab expatriates.

n) Holding a special session of the Arab Economic and Social Council.

Other resolutions adopted dealt with the situation in Lebanon, the reconstruction of Lebanon, helping Palestinians in South Lebanon in addition to a stress on previous resolutions concerning the importance of holding Arab summits on a regular basis in Arab countries according to their alphabetical order.

At the end of the conference a final statement was issued in which the following points were stressed: The Arab-Israeli conflict is a prolonged conflict. Israel is a military, political, economic and civilisational threat. It re-

solution 242 was not compatible with Arab rights and did not form a suitable basis for solving the Middle East problem especially that of Palestine; the conference underlined Arab leaders' intention to abort the Camp David agreements. It issued a salute to the Arab Egyptian people which forms an important part of the Arab Nation; the conference called for looking into the conflict between Iran and Iraq, calling on both parties to observe an immediate ceasefire and to seek a solution to the dispute by peaceful means. The conference supported Iraq's legitimate right to its land and waters in accordance with international agreements signed by both countries. It welcomed Iraq's positive response to the appeals of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement for a ceasefire and to a resolution of the conflict through negotiations. The conference appealed to Iran to reciprocate the Iraqi response.

The eleventh Arab summit conference — Amman, Nov. 25-27, 1980

Based on their sixth resolution of the tenth Arab summit, the Amman conference was held and after listening to speeches made by attending heads of state, the conference reached the following resolutions:

a) The endorsement of the joint Arab action programme.

b) The ratification of the pan-Arab economic action charter; the approval of the joint Arab economic action strategy; the endorsement of the agreement for Arab capital investment in Arab states and approval of the Arab joint development decade.

c) Supporting the technical assistance fund for Arab and African states.

d) The convening of Arab summit conferences on a regular basis in accordance with the alphabetical order.

e) Supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian and Jordanian people.

The conference thanked Jordan for hosting the summit and the Arab League secretariat for its efforts.

The conference also endorsed the following supplements:

— The joint Arab action programme to confront the Zionist enemy in the forthcoming stage.

— The pan-Arab economic action charter.

— The strategy for joint Arab economic action.

— The unified agreement for capital investment in the Arab World.

— The Arab economic decade.

The closing statement included points dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict; adopting political, military and economic decisions in this regard; adhering to a united Arab stand towards the causes of Palestine and Jerusalem; supporting the independence of the Palestine Liberation Organisation; stressing the right to practise the responsibilities of handling the future of the Palestinian people by the Palestinian people themselves represented by the Palestine Liberation Organisation; the conference also stressed that United Nations Re-



His Majesty King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan attending the 4th Arab summit held in Khartoum in 1967 (File photo)

adopt the following principles as the text of the Arab peace plan, for solving the Arab-Israeli conflict:

— Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 including Arab Jerusalem.

— Removing settlements built by Israel in Arab territories after 1967.

— Securing the freedom of worship and the practice of religious rituals for all faiths in the holy places.

— Stressing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the practice of its inalienable national rights under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people; repatriations for those who do not wish to return.

— The West Bank and Gaza to be put under the supervision of the United Nations for a transitional period that does not exceed few months.

— The establishment of an

defence of all Arab territories and considering every aggression against any Arab state as an aggression against all Arab states.

d) Discussing the situation in the African Horn; supporting the Democratic Republic of Somalia, supporting its sovereignty and ousting the Ethiopian force from its territories.

e) Establishing a ministerial committee to study the amendment of the Arab League charter and related regulations.

f) The allocation of funds to build headquarters for the Arab League.

g) Supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian and Jordanian people.

h) Establishing a fund for the reconstruction of war-ravaged Lebanon.

i) Setting a date for convening the thirteenth Arab summit in Saudi Arabia in Nov. 1983.

j) An initial agreement on subjects to be studied by a meeting of the council of foreign ministers in the preparatory meeting in Fez

against all Arab states; supporting the Democratic Republic of Somalia in the protection of its sovereignty on its lands and the ousting of the Ethiopian force from Somali lands; establishing an Arab committee to conduct contacts with the permanent members at the United Nations Security Council to follow up on the conference's resolutions regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The extraordinary Arab summit conference — Casablanca, Aug. 7-9, 1985

The conference convened at the request of King Hassan II of Morocco to enhance Arab solidarity and support joint Arab action based on the principles of the Arab League charter, its resolutions and agreements. The conference looked into important Arab issues in a spirit of understanding and consideration of the joint Arab rights and interests. The closing statement included the following main points:

The establishment of two committees to clear the atmosphere between Arab states; a strong denouncement and deep regret for Iran's insistence on continuing the war and its repeated attacks on Iraq. On the Palestine question, the joint Jordanian-Palestinian action plan was considered as a work plan for the implementation of the Arab peace plan to achieve a peaceful, just and comprehensive settlement that guarantees the withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces from all occupied territories beginning with holy Jerusalem.

The conference expressed great concern for the deterioration in the situation in Lebanon in a way that threatens the destiny and unity of Lebanon as a land and people. The conference severely denounced terrorism in all its forms and sources beginning with the Israeli terrorism in and outside the occupied Arab territories. The conference asked King Hassan II to continue his contacts on international level to clarify Arab causes. The conference reviewed with great concern the latest developments in South Africa and expressed thanks to Morocco for hosting the summit.



Arab leaders head to the conference hall for the first Arab summit held in Cairo in 1964 (File photo)

The closing statement condemned the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and stressed the importance of strengthening ties with Islamic nations, international organisations, in addition it condemned the United States for its continued support for Israel politically, militarily and economically, and its attempt to brand the Palestine Liberation Organisation with terrorism. It called for settling Arab disputes in addition to approving four joint pan-Arab economic action charters.

— The Arab economic decade.

The closing statement included points dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict; adopting political, military and economic decisions in this regard; adhering to a united Arab stand towards the causes of Palestine and Jerusalem; supporting the independence of the Palestine Liberation Organisation; stressing the right to practise the responsibilities of handling the future of the Palestinian people by the Palestinian people themselves represented by the Palestine Liberation Organisation; the conference also stressed that United Nations Re-

independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

— The Security Council to guarantee peace among all countries in the region including the independent Palestinian state.

— The Security Council to undertake to guarantee the implementation of the above principles.

c) Discussing the Gulf war with a commitment to solidarity in

and Hamdia.

The closing statement covered the following:

Approving the text of the Arab peace plan; condemning the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people; a declaration of commitment to defend all Arab territories in relation to the Iran-Iraq war; considering every aggression against any Arab state as an aggression

and Hamdia.

The closing statement covered the following:

Approving the text of the Arab peace plan; condemning the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people; a declaration of commitment to defend all Arab territories in relation to the Iran-Iraq war; considering every aggression against any Arab state as an aggression

and Hamdia.

The closing statement covered the following:

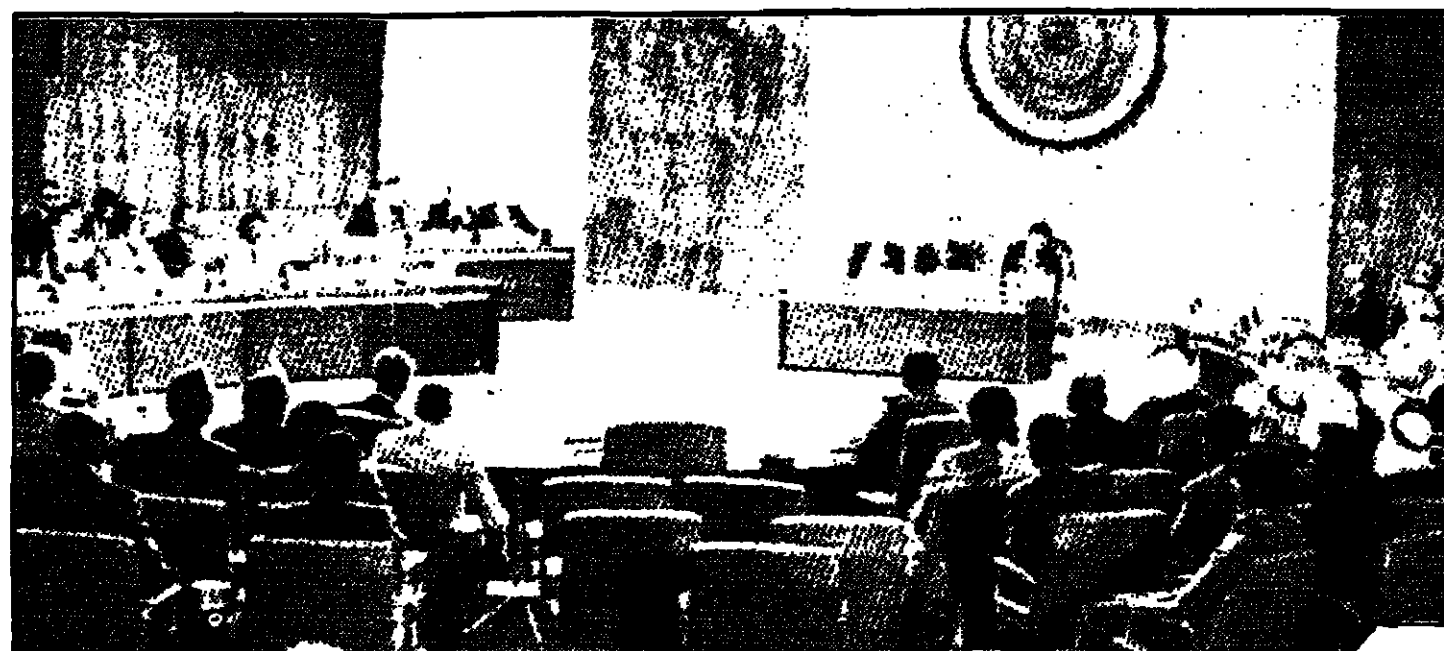
Approving the text of the Arab peace plan; condemning the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people; a declaration of commitment to defend all Arab territories in relation to the Iran-Iraq war; considering every aggression against any Arab state as an aggression

The twelfth Arab summit conference — Fez, Nov. 25, 1981 (second session Sept. 6-9, 1982)

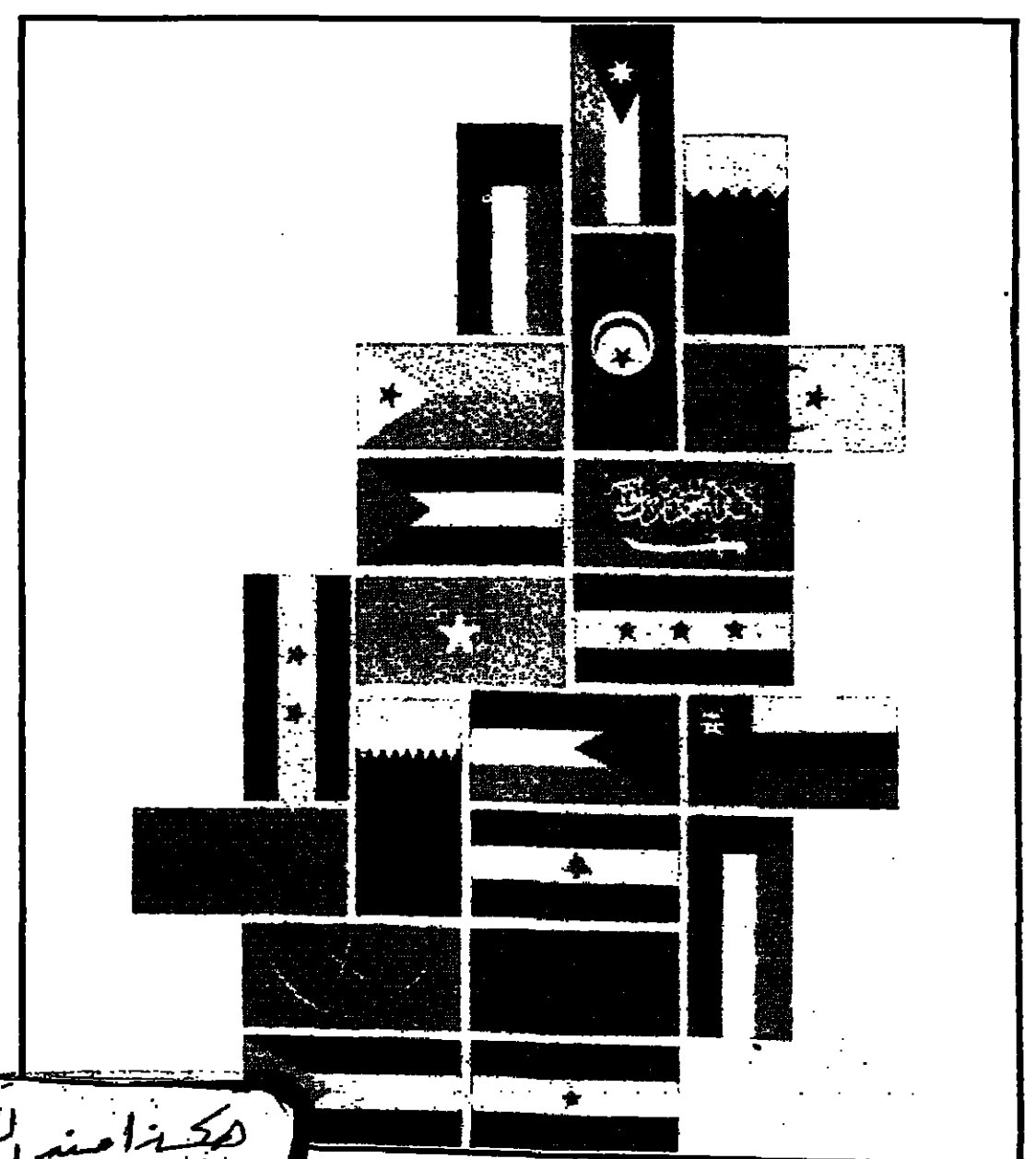
The summit passed the following resolutions:

a) Discussing the south Lebanon problem and forming a comprehensive strategy to stop Israel's aggression against South Lebanon.

b) The conference decided to

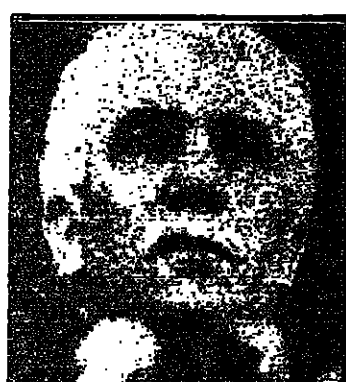


The 11th Arab summit in session (File photo)



Capsule profiles of Arab states attending summit

The capsule profiles of the Arab League members was compiled by P.V. Vivekanand with information gathered from the Middle East Review 1986 and the World Almanac 1987.



Chadli Benjedid
Algeria:

The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria
Head of State: President Chadli Benjedid, born April 14, 1929; in office since Feb. 9, 1979.
Capital: Algiers
Population: 20.9 million (1985)
Area: 2,381,741 square kilometres
Currency: Algerian dinar
Gross national product: \$51.7 billion (1984)
Per capita income: \$2,085 (1984)
Economy: Oil and gas. Industries — Steel, textiles, fertilizers and plastics. Main crops — grains, vine-grapes, potatoes, dates, tomatoes and oranges. Minerals — mercury, zinc, lead, coal, copper and phosphates.
Political system: Republic



Jordan:

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Head of state: King Hussein Ibn Talal, born Nov. 14, 1935; assumed office on Aug. 11, 1952
Capital: Amman
Population: Around 3.3 million (1983)
Area: 98,000 square kilometres
Currency: Jordanian dinar
Gross domestic product: \$4.2 billion (1983)
Economy: Phosphates and fertilizers. Industries — Cement, textiles, steel, food processing. Chief crops — Grains, fruits and vegetables
Political system: Constitutional monarchy



Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa

Bahrain:

The State of Bahrain
Head of state: The emir, Sheikh Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa, born July 3, 1933; in office since Nov. 2, 1961.
Capital: Manama
Population: 431,000 (1985)
Area: 676 square kilometres
Currency: Bahraini dinar
Gross domestic product: \$4.3 billion (1984)
Per capita income: \$6,315
Economy: Oil and gas. Industries — Aluminium and Steel. Chief crops — Fruits and vegetables
Political system: Traditional emirate



Hassan Gouled Aptidon

Djibouti:

The Republic of Djibouti
Head of state: President Hassan Gouled Aptidon; in office since June 24, 1977
Capital: Djibouti-ville
Currency: Djibouti franc
Main Languages (other than Arabic): Somali, Saho-Afar
Population: 345,000 (1983)
Area: 23,310 square kilometres
Gross national product: \$307 million (1984)
Per capita income: \$400 (1982)
Economic resources: Minerals — Salt
Political system: Republic



Saddam Hussein
Iraq

The Republic of Iraq
Head of state: President Saddam Hussein Al Takriti, born in 1935; in office since July 16, 1979.
Capital: Baghdad
Population: 16 million (1987)
Area: 434,924 square kilometres
Currency: Iraqi dinar
Gross national product: \$31 billion (1981)
Per capita income: \$2,410 (1981)
Economy: Oil and gas. Industries — Textiles, petrochemicals, oil refining and cement. Chief crops — grains, rice, dates and cotton.



Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah

Kuwait

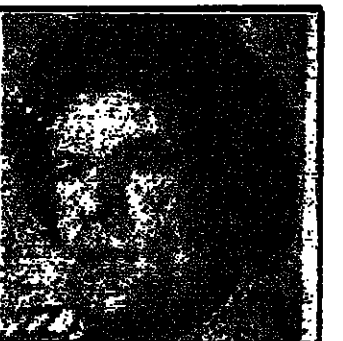
The State of Kuwait
Head of state: The emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, born in 1928; in office since Jan. 1, 1978.
Capital: Kuwait City
Population: 1,710,000 (1985)
Area: 17,818 square kilometres
Currency: Kuwaiti dinar
Gross national product: \$22 billion (1984)
Per capita income: \$11,131
Economy: Oil and gas as well as marine products.
Political system: Constitutional monarchy



Amin Gemayel

Lebanon

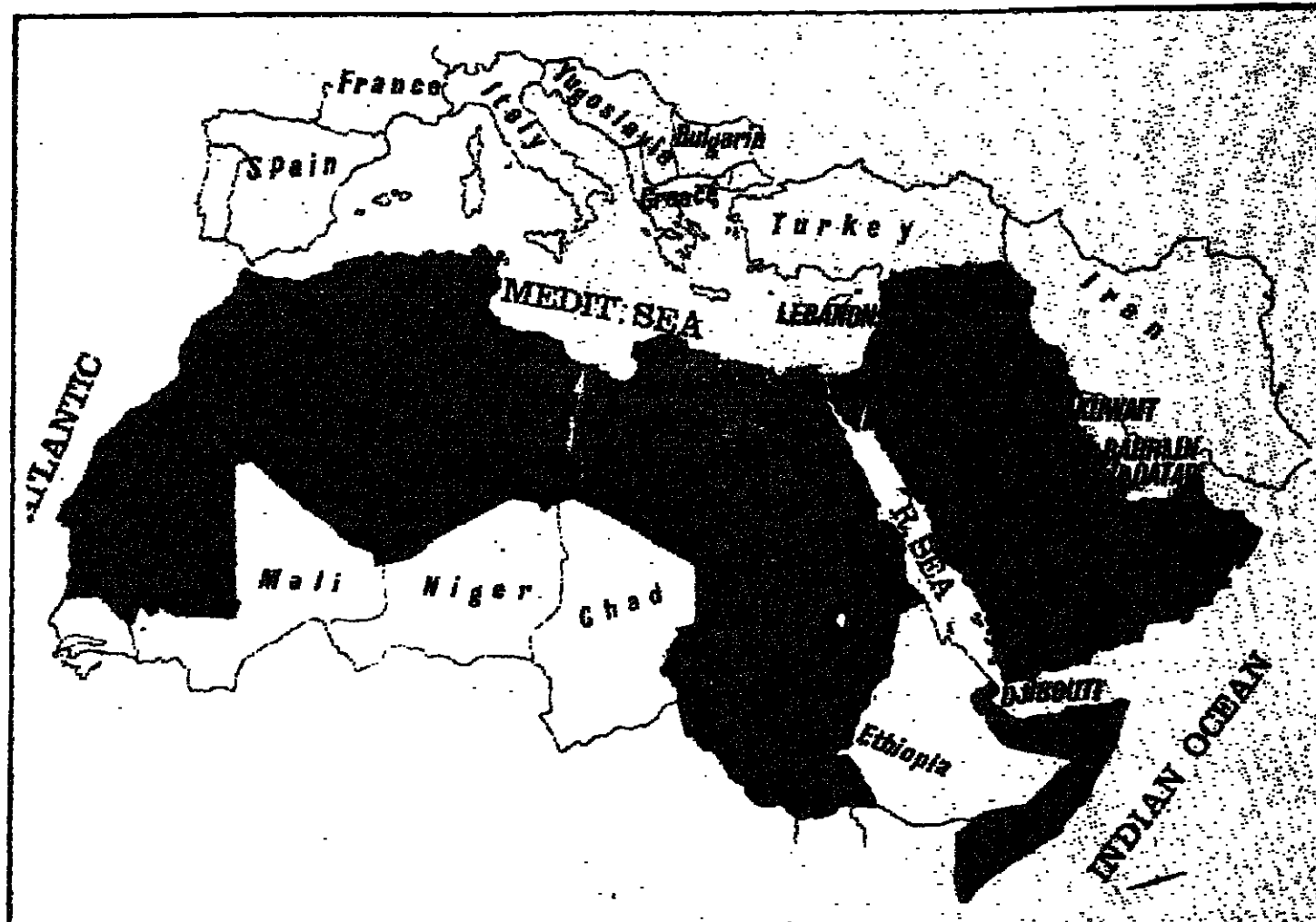
The Republic of Lebanon
Head of state: President Amin Gemayel, born in 1943; in office since Sept. 23, 1982
Capital: Beirut
Population: 2.6 million (estimated in 1985)
Area: 10,452 square kilometres
Currency: Lebanese pound
Gross national product: \$3 billion (1985)
Per capita income: \$1,150 (1985)
Economy: Industries — Oil products, food processing, cement, textiles and building equipment. Chief crops — Fruits, olives, tobacco, grapes, vegetables and grains.
Political system: Parliamentary Republic



Muammar Qadhafi

Libya

The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah
Head of state: Colonel Muammar Qadhafi, born in Sept. 1942, assumed power in September 1969.



Capital: Tripoli
Population: 3.72 million (1985)
Area: 1,761,132 square kilometres
Currency: Libyan dinar
Gross domestic product: \$25 billion (1984)
Per capita income: \$7,000
Economy: Oil and gas. Industries — Carpets, textiles and petroleum products. Chief crops — Dates, olives, fruits and vegetables, grains (mainly wheat and rice).
Political system: Islamic Arabic Socialist "masses-state."



Maouiya Ould Taya

Mauritania

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania
Head of state: President Colonel Maouiya Ould Sid'Ahmad Taya, in office since December 1984.
Capital: Nouakchott
Population: 1.7 million (1985)
Area: 1,030,700 square kilometres
Currency: Ouguiya
Gross domestic product: \$614 million
Economy: Chief crops — dates and grain.
Minerals — Iron and ore
Political system: Military Republic



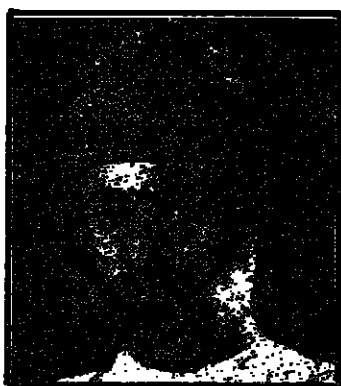
King Hassan II

Morocco

The Kingdom of Morocco
Head of state: King Hassan II, born July 9, 1929; in office since March 3, 1961
Capital: Rabat
Currency: Moroccan dirham
Main languages (other than Arabic): Berber, Spanish and French
Population: 21.6 million (1984)
Area: 711,000 square kilometres
Gross national product: \$2.7 billion (1983)
Per capita income: \$220 (1983)
Economic resources: Minerals — Phosphates, antimony, cobalt, manganese, lead, oil and coal. Chief crops — Grains, vegetable and fruits, dates and grapes.
Political system: Constitutional monarchy

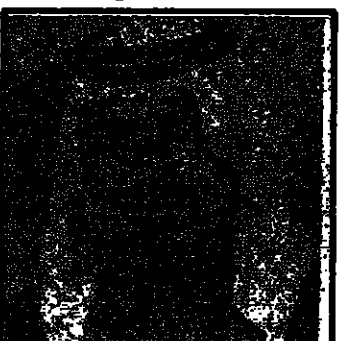
Oman

The Sultanate of Oman
Head of state: Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said, born Nov. 18, 1942; in office since: July 23, 1970



Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said

Capital: Muscat
Currency: Omani rial
Main Languages (other than Arabic): English
Population: 1,228,000 (1985)
Area: 320,000 square kilometres
Gross national product: \$7 billion (1983)
Per capita income: \$2,400
Economic resources: Oil, marine products, dates, fruits and vegetables
Political system: Absolute monarchy



Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani

Qatar

The State of Qatar
Head of state: Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani, born 1932; in office since Feb. 22, 1972
Capital: Doha
Currency: Qatari rial
Main languages (other than Arabic): English
Population: 300,000 (1985)
Area: 11,437 square kilometres
Gross national product: \$5.9 billion (1983)
Per capita income: \$22,130 (1983)
Economic resources: Oil
Political system: Traditional emirate



King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz

Saudi Arabia

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Head of state: King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz, born 1922; in office since June 13, 1982
Capital: Riyadh
Currency: Saudi riyal
Main languages (other than Arabic): English
Population: 11,150,000 (1985)
Area: 2,149,690 kilometres
Gross domestic product: \$110.5 billion (1983)
Per capita income: \$11,534 (1983)
Economic resources: Oil and gas, gold, silver and iron, wheat, barley and dates
Political system: Monarchy with appointed ministers



Mohammad Said Barre

Somalia

Somali Democratic Republic
Head of state: President Mohammad Said Barre, born 1919; in office since Oct. 21, 1969
Capital: Mogadishu
Currency: Somali shilling
Main languages (other than Arabic): Somali, English and Italian
Population: 7.5 million (1985)
Area: 625,541 square kilometres
Gross national product: \$1.2 billion (1983)
Per capita income: less than \$500 (1983)
Economic resources: Chief crops — incense, sugar, bananas, corn, sorghum. Minerals — Iron, tin, bauxite, uranium
Political system: Independent republic



Mohammad Mirghani

Sudan

The Democratic Republic of Sudan
Head of state: Mohammad Mirghani; in office since May 6, 1986
Capital: Khartoum
Currency: Sudanese pound
Main languages (other than Arabic): English, Nilotic, Nilo-hamitic
Population: 22,972,000 (1985)
Area: 2,505,813 square kilometres
Gross national product: \$27.3 billion (1983)
Per capita income: \$361 (1983)
Economic resources: Industries — textiles and food processing. Chief crops — Gum Arabic, Sorghum, cotton, sesame, peanuts, rice, coffee, sugarcane, tobacco, wheat and dates
Political system: Republic



Hafez Al Assad

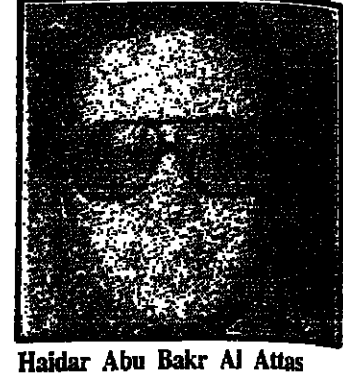
Syria

The Syrian Arab Republic



Ali Abdullah Saleh

Abdullah Saleh, born 1942; in office since July 17, 1978
Capital: Sanaa
Currency: Yemeni rial
Main languages (other than Arabic): English
Population: 7 million (1985)
Area: 195,000 square kilometres
Gross national product: \$3.9 billion (1983)
Per capita income: \$478 (1977-1978)
Economic resources: Industries — Textiles, cement. Chief crops — Wheat, sorghum, gat, fruits and vegetables
Political system: Republic



Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas
South Yemen

Peoples Democratic Republic of Yemen
Head of state: Haidar Abu Bakr, in office since Feb. 14, 1985
Capital: Aden
Currency: Yemeni dinar
Main languages (other than Arabic): English
Population: 2.16 million (1983)
Area: 332,968 square kilometres
Gross national product: \$1 billion (1985)
Per capita income: \$310 (1983)
Economic resources: Industries — Transhipment. Chief crops — Cotton, grains.
Political system: Republic

Palestine (occupied)

Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat, born 1929; in office since 1969.
Main languages: Arabic, Hebrew, English
Area: 72,000 square kilometre
Gross national product: Not available
Per capita income: Not available
Economic resources: Not available



Yasser Arafat

Masri: Summit seeks consensus

(Continued from page 1)

speech at 5 p.m. Following the opening ceremony, the Arab leaders will move to the Plaza Hotel for closed-door deliberations which will be launched by the speeches by the King and Mr. Kibbi.

Speaking at Sunday's press conference, which was attended by over 200 journalists, Mr. Masri said all Arab states would be represented by their heads of state except for Saudi Arabia, which will be represented by Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, and Tunisia, which is sending its Foreign Minister Mahmoud Al Mestiri. Mr. Masri said that Jordan had not yet received any information on who will represent Libya at the conference.

Mr. Masri, who is the summit conference's official spokesman, said that the participation of Arab states on this level reflected what Arab people expect from their leaders.

"Now, more than at anytime before, there is a need to heal rifts and bypass differences in the Arab World and join hands to confront dangers that threaten the Arab Order and existence," said Mr. Masri.

Pointing to "the historic responsibility" shouldered by Arab leaders, Mr. Masri said the Arab World "is passing through a critical stage with threats to its present and future... this is an extraordinary summit indeed. What is needed and expected is also extraordinary, because the background (to the summit) is extraordinary."

Mr. Masri said King Hussein had exerted substantive and sincere efforts towards uniting Arab ranks, backed by Arab leaders who he said contributed to these efforts.

The foreign minister refused comment on news from Tunis that President Habib Bourguiba had been deposed by his second-in-command Prime Minister Zein Al Abedeen Ibn Ali. He said that to the best of his knowledge the same delegation, led by the Tunisian foreign minister, would be attending the summit. "At this point I cannot comment on this. But our policy in Jordan is to consider this development as part of (Tunisia's) internal affairs — and it will remain as such."

In reply to a question on Saudi Arabia's participation in the summit, Mr. Masri said Crown Prince Abdullah would be here "with a full mandate." He added that "we would have liked to see King Fahd here, but whatever are the reasons (for the monarch not to attend), we respect their decision, especially that they are sending the crown prince with a full mandate."

"The Saudi participation will be strong," he stressed. Asked whether summit resolutions were to be adopted on the basis of consensus or a majority, Mr. Masri said the issue was something to be decided by the

Arab leaders themselves. He said King Hussein "will do what is satisfactory for Arab leaders."

On Libya's participation, and statement by Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi who has said he would not be attending the summit, the foreign minister told the news conference that he would refrain from comment on statements by an Arab leader, adding that, "this summit was not held at the initiative of one country... it came with an almost unanimous initiative on the part of Arab states."

Asked what would be the conference's position vis-a-vis the American military presence in the Gulf, Mr. Masri pointed out that foreign presence in the Gulf was not limited to the United States. "Several major powers have a presence in the Gulf. The summit may discuss the whole foreign presence in the Gulf, but it is premature to predict the details," Mr. Masri said.

Asked whether improvements in U.S.-Soviet relations would effect Arab action on the Gulf war and the Arab-Israeli conflict, Mr. Masri said bilateral Arab-Soviet and Arab-American contacts were continuing with the aim of ascertaining the positions of both superpowers on Arab causes.

He said the summit would seek to ensure "the best way to end the Gulf war, and that agreement between the two superpowers would not harm the interests of the Arab Nation."

The summit convenes one month before U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev are scheduled to meet in Washington.

"We must not let any agreement between them to reflect negatively on our region," Mr. Masri said.

Asked whether the timing of the scheduled meeting between United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and representatives of Iraq and Iran in New York would hinder the chances for a strong resolution on the war during the summit, Mr. Masri said: "Arab leaders are very eager to support efforts of the secretary general."

Noting reports that the Iraqi foreign minister is scheduled to meet with the U.N. chief in New York immediately after the summit, Mr. Masri said a unanimous resolution on the Gulf war "will help Iraq tremendously and strengthen all efforts to end the war."

Mr. Masri stressed that strong Arab resolutions would be "the best message the Arab World can send" to the superpower summit.

When asked whether a failure of the summit would be a serious setback, he said: "Yes, it would be serious if it failed."

"But," he added, "I assure you it won't."

Asked on the subjects on the agenda, the foreign minister said Arab leaders were free to raise any subject.

Arab leaders converge on Amman for summit



(Photos by Yusef Al Alian)



Arab leaders arrive for summit

(Continued from page 4)

ence in Amman's Fourth Circle area.

Mr. Gemayel held a round of talks with Sheikh Issa, who is also staying at a private residence in Amman. Sheikh Issa later met with King Hussein at the same residence. Mr. Gemayel also called on Sheikh Zayed, while Mr. Abbas visited Sheikh Zayed later. The Bahraini emir also met with Sheikh Zayed.

Most Arab heads of state, including His Majesty King Hussein, are staying at the Amman Plaza Hotel in the Shmeisani district, where the summit's closed sessions will be held. King Hassan will be staying at the newly-refurbished residence of the Moroccan ambassador in Amman. Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz will be staying at the Saudi ambassador's residence in the Um Uthaina area, while President Assad is staying at a private residence.

King Hussein visited the Iraqi president at the place of his residence. The meeting was attended by Iraq's ambassador to Jordan, Ghafel Jassem Hussein. Then, the King visited President Saleh and Mr. Attas. The meeting was attended by the foreign ministers of the North Yemen and South Yemen, Dr. Abdul Karim Al Arian and Mr. Abdul Aziz Al Dali respectively.

King Hussein also met with Sultan Qaboos. The meeting was attended on the Omani side by the deputy prime minister for legal affairs, Mr. Fahd Bin Mahmoud Al Said; Mr. Qais Zawawi, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs; Mr. Saif Bin Hamad, chief of the sultan's court; Mr. Abdul Aziz Al Rawwass, the minister of information; Mr. Yusef Bin Alawi, the foreign minister; and Lieutenant-General Ali Majed, head of the office of the Sultan.

President Saleh received in his residence President Hussein for a meeting during which the two leaders discussed the developments in the Gulf and efforts towards achieving Arab solidarity within the framework of the Arab summit. Petra said that the North Yemeni leader assured the Iraqi president of his country's support for Iraq in defence of the sovereignty on its territories. President Saleh later returned the visit at President Hussein's residence.

Sultan Qaboos also received Sheikh Issa. The Omani leader also met with Mr. Barre. In addition, President Assad received in his residence Mr. Attas.

King Hussein also called on President Barre, in a meeting that was attended by the Somali delegation to the summit. His Majesty then met with President Gemayel and, later, President Benjedid. The King conferred with Sheikh Issa and Chairman Mirghani, as well.

Moscow warns of nuclear war threat and denounces quest for military supremacy

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Defence Minister General Dmitry Yazov told the traditional Revolution Day military parade on Red Square on Saturday that the threat of nuclear war persists and he denounced the quest for military superiority.

But he lightened his tough remarks by noting the "special importance" of next month's summit in Washington, where Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan will sign a pact banning superpower intermediate-range nuclear arms.

"Despite favourable trends on the international stage, the situation in the world remains complicated. The threat of nuclear war persists," said Gen. Yazov, who was flanked by Mr. Gorbachev and Soviet President Andrei Gromyko.

"Reactionary imperialist circles, ignoring the lessons of history, are continuing to strive for military superiority," he declared, in remarks clearly pointed at the United States.

The military display marking the 70th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution began as Gen. Yazov, saluting smartly from an open olive-grey limousine under light snow, reviewed troops of the Moscow garrison assembled on Red Square.

He then joined Mr. Gorbachev and the top Soviet leadership atop the red-and-black granite mausoleum to Vladimir Lenin, who led the 1917 revolution and founded the Soviet state.

Gen. Yazov said Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Reagan would discuss proposals to reduce their stockpiles of strategic weapons by 50 per cent when they meet in Washington on Dec. 7.

He said this project would be discussed in the context of an understanding between the two powers to observe the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty for an agreed period.

Although Gen. Yazov did not directly refer to Mr. Reagan's strategic defence initiative (SDI), or "Star Wars," his message against attempts to achieve military superiority appeared to refer to the U.S. programme for a weapons shield in space.

Moscow has frequently said it considers SDI an offensive rather than a defensive system which Washington wants to deploy in order to establish world domination from space.

Soviet officials contend that strict observance of the ABM treaty would limit development of "Star Wars." They want the treaty to remain firmly in place for seven to 10 more years.

Gen. Yazov, appointed to oversee a military shake-up last May after a young West German violated Soviet airspace and flew a light plane to Red square, said the armed forces stood "vigorously on guard" against any aggression.

In the face of the continuing imperialist threat, he said, the Soviet authorities "are taking the necessary measures to strengthen the country's military might at a level which will ensure that no one will seek to disturb our peaceful life."

His speech was followed by an artillery salute and the national anthem. The parade then began with a march-past of troops dressed in uniforms of the civil war period which followed the revolution and in World War II military kit.

Red Guards in black leather jackets and red arm bands were followed by cavalry units, some of the horses pulling olive green gun carriages mounted with Maxim machine guns.

Cadets from Soviet military academies paraded past the mausoleum, where Cuban President Fidel Castro and the leaders of Bulgaria, East Germany, Poland and Romania were standing with members of the ruling Soviet politburo.

Among them was Moscow Communist Party chief Boris Yeltsin, who offered to resign at a top-level party meeting last month. There have been strong indications that Mr. Yeltsin, a Gorbachev ally who stood near the Kremlin leader, would retain his post.

Facing the mausoleum was a giant red portrait of Lenin and two huge posters, one with slogans from 1917 — "All power to the Soviets," "Peace to the peoples," "Land to the Peasants" — the other with the slogans of Mr. Gorbachev's 1987 reforms.



Gen. Dmitry Yazov

for seven to 10 more years.

Gen. Yazov, appointed to oversee a military shake-up last May after a young West German violated Soviet airspace and flew a light plane to Red square, said the armed forces stood "vigorously on guard" against any aggression.

In the face of the continuing imperialist threat, he said, the Soviet authorities "are taking the necessary measures to strengthen the country's military might at a level which will ensure that no one will seek to disturb our peaceful life."

His speech was followed by an artillery salute and the national anthem. The parade then began with a march-past of troops dressed in uniforms of the civil war period which followed the revolution and in World War II military kit.

Red Guards in black leather jackets and red arm bands were followed by cavalry units, some of the horses pulling olive green gun carriages mounted with Maxim machine guns.

Cadets from Soviet military academies paraded past the mausoleum, where Cuban President Fidel Castro and the leaders of Bulgaria, East Germany, Poland and Romania were standing with members of the ruling Soviet politburo.

Among them was Moscow Communist Party chief Boris Yeltsin, who offered to resign at a top-level party meeting last month. There have been strong indications that Mr. Yeltsin, a Gorbachev ally who stood near the Kremlin leader, would retain his post.

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Iran reportedly massing forces for new offensive against Basra

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iran has mobilised large numbers of Revolutionary Guards and regular army units for a new Gulf war offensive against Iraq's southern city of Basra, diplomats in Baghdad report.

A senior Asian diplomat told Reuters on Saturday his embassy in Tehran had reported that thousands of troops had moved to the southern war front in recent weeks, both from other combat areas and from newly recruited units.

Military analysts outside Iraq have predicted for some time that Iran would try to launch a winter ground offensive across the southern border into Iraq, once the scorching summer temperatures in the region began to fall.

And Iran itself has declared that it might choose to force a military solution to the seven-year-old conflict, given the current state of near-deadlock in United Nations efforts to achieve a ceasefire.

Iran's chief war spokesman, Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, called last week for a "decisive military action" with "a resolute move on the battlefields," to swing the war, both militarily and politically, to Tehran's advantage.

The Iranians still hold a narrow 4.5-by-two kilometres strip of Iraqi territory, less than 20 kilometres east of Basra, which they occupied at the cost of heavy casualties in an offensive against Basra launched last December.

They also occupy an area of about 18 square kilometres around Iraq's disputed southern oil terminal on the Fao Peninsula, southeast of Basra at the end of the Gulf.

This is the site from which Iran is believed to have launched missiles against Kuwait over its support for Iraq.

But they are up against a reinforced Iraqi defence ring round Basra, composed of the Third and Seventh Army Corps, plus special forces, volunteer units, air force and missile detachments which diplomats estimate at around a quarter of a million men.

Two major Iranian thrusts towards Basra were beaten back in the last winter offensive with Iraqi war communiques reporting well over 200,000 enemy troops killed or wounded.

Tehran said at the time its ground offensives were aimed not at capturing Basra, but at "decimating" the Iraqi armed forces.

Iraq's defence minister, Adnan Khairallah, recently toured front-line positions in the Third, Sixth and Seventh Army Corps sectors in the region.

The agency's plenary conference, which convenes every two years, will also discuss world food and agricultural problems including the threat of a new famine in Ethiopia.

After a ceremonial opening, delegates of the 158-member organisation elected Kuwait's minister for commerce and industry, Faisal Abdul Razaq Al Kholid, as conference chairman.

A FAO spokesman said 132 nations were presented at the opening. Only countries attending the conference can vote.

On Monday delegates will vote in a secret ballot to decide whether the incumbent director-general, Lebanese Edouard Saouma, should serve an unprecedented third six-year term or give way to challenger Moise Mensah of Benin.

Supporters of both Mr. Saouma and Mr. Mensah have said each candidate has been promised enough votes for victory in the simple majority ballot.

The run-up to the election has been less bitter than the UNESCO leadership fight in which the U.N. cultural agency's long-serving director-general, Amadou Mahtar Mbow of Senegal, stepped down in favour of Federico Mayor of Spain.

Mr. Saouma is backed by Latin America, the Middle East, France, Belgium, some southern European countries and the Arab League.

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whose guns have a range of up to 22 kilometres.

They said that in darkness, the attacker probably was much closer than that. But they quoted Grand Wisdom crewmen as saying they did not see the ship that fired on them.

U.S. military officials, who asked they not be named, said the Alvand operates in the southern Gulf where it has attacked other ships and served as a mother ship for smaller armed boats that have attacked neutral vessels.

It is one of four British-built frigates in Iran's navy. Apart from 4.5-inch guns, it is armed with two types of sea-skimming anti-air missiles. It rarely, if ever, flies the Iranian flag, shipping sources said.

There was no shrapnel or other evidence to indicate the Grand Wisdom was hit by missiles or the smaller rocket-propelled grenades, the sources said.

The crewmen said they thought eight rounds were fired, with three landing in the water.

Five hit the ship, exploding inside the crew's quarters, a storeroom and other areas. A small fire was controlled within an hour.

U.S. officials said the missile frigate Rentz was on routine patrol 65 kilometres to the north-east, too far away to assist the tanker if it had been asked, which it was not.

"The captain of the Grand Wisdom reported that he had a fire on board after the attack. But at no time did he request assistance, either from the Rentz or from the port itself," a navy official said.

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Iranians used long-range guns to hit U.S.-owned tanker in southern Gulf

BAHRAIN (AP) — Crewmen aboard a U.S.-managed tanker said Saturday they never saw the vessel, believed to be an Iranian navy frigate, that shelled their ship with long-range guns in a pre-dawn attack in the southern Gulf.

At least five rounds from the warship's 4.5-inch guns hit the 103,584-ton Grand Wisdom on Friday, but it escaped with relatively minor damage and no casualties, shipping sources said.

The tanker was anchored off Dubai Saturday with five large holes in its stern and side where the shells hit.

The 290,083-ton tanker Middletown, escorted by the U.S. frigates Thach and Ford, was moving down the Gulf in the 16th convoy since the U.S. navy's escort operations for American-flagged Kuwaiti tankers began in mid-July.

The convoy left Kuwait Friday and was expected to pass Bahrain, about halfway along its 880-kilometre journey late Saturday.

The raid on the Grand Wisdom was originally blamed on Revolutionary Guards.

But experts discounted this because the holes in the tanker, as much as 61 centimetres wide, were too big to have been made by the shoulder-fired rocket-propelled grenades the commandos use in their close-quarter attacks.

Friday's assault was the first by Iran on a neutral vessel since Oct. 24. It was believed to be in reprisal for an Iraqi air strike that damaged a shuttle tanker off Iran's coast Thursday.

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Iranian attacker was believed to be the Alvand, a 1,540-ton frigate,

whose guns have a range of up to 22 kilometres.

They said that in darkness, the attacker probably was much closer than that. But they quoted Grand Wisdom crewmen as saying they did not see the ship that fired on them.

U.S. military officials, who asked they not be named, said the Alvand operates in the southern Gulf where it has attacked other ships and served as a mother ship for smaller armed boats that have attacked neutral vessels.

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Freed S. Korean hostage said to have seen Waite

BEIRUT (R) — A militia source said on Saturday that kidnapped British church envoy Terry Waite was apparently seen by a freed South Korean diplomat while held hostage in Lebanon.

The source said diplomat Do Chae-Sung saw two other hostages he identified as Frenchman Roger Augue and German Rudolph Cordes and a third captive who fitted Mr. Waite's description.

The source told Reuters that Do described the third foreign hostage as a very tall, bearded man with his hair combed backwards. The man was wearing a thick ring on a finger.

"Do saw Waite," said the source, who has proved reliable in the past. "Do's description of the third captive applies to Waite more than any of the other hostages. None of the others is that tall and Waite wears a ring like that."

British embassy officials declined to comment.

Mr. Waite, an envoy for Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, vanished on Jan. 20 after going to west Beirut to meet the kidnappers of Americans Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland.

A senior Foreign Ministry official in Seoul said on Friday that Mr. Do told colleagues he was unable to formally identify some hostages he saw but recognised one as a "famous journalist."

Mr. Anderson, head of the Associated Press bureau in Beirut when abducted in 1985, is considered the best-known journalist among the 26 foreigners still missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon.

South Korea's Assistant Foreign Minister Park Soo-Gil suggested Mr. Do, 44, was confused and weakened when he told reporters on his return to Seoul on Tuesday that he had not seen other foreign hostages.

The source said Mr. Do communicated with Mr. Cordes and Mr. Augue but got no response whenever he tried to talk to the one believed to be Mr. Waite.

Mr. Augue, 31, a news photographer and radio journalist, was seized by gunmen on Jan. 13, 1987, and Mr. Cordes, a businessman, was abducted on Jan. 17 in west Beirut.

"We pledged to each other that whoever is released first will do his best to get the others out," the source quoted Mr. Do as saying before leaving west Beirut for Seoul last Saturday.

Mr. Do was freed five days earlier and protected by the Amal militia until he flew out of Beirut on Saturday, security sources said.

Amal acted as an intermediary in the release of Mr. Do, who was abducted as he was being driven to work at South Korea's embassy on Jan. 31, 1986, the sources said.

FAO opens conference; Saouma seeks third term

NBA season opens with victory by L.A. Lakers

NEW YORK (AP) — The National Basketball Association (NBA) opened its 1987-88 season Friday night with 11 games, including a victory by the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers.

The Lakers lost their home opener after winning their two previous championships — in 1985 and 1987. Against Seattle on Friday, they trailed the Super-sonics 81-70 in the third quarter, then scored 25 of the next 30 points to win 113-109.

"It's a relief and a monkey off our backs," said Magic Johnson, last season's playoff and regular season most valuable player. "I felt like a little kid all day, and I had a little nervousness in my stomach. I would have hated to win a lot of championships and not win the first game of the season."

Johnson scored 10 of his game-high 26 points in the fourth quarter and A.C. Green added 21 for Los Angeles.

Elsewhere, it was Cleveland 114, New Jersey 108; Philadelphia 108, Indiana 95; Atlanta 114, Washington 97; Detroit 110, New York 99; Boston 125, Milwaukee 108; Dallas 95, Utah 93; Houston 108, San Antonio 102; Denver 139, Los Angeles Clippers 93; Sacramento 134, Golden State 106; and Portland 118, Phoenix 104.

Celtics 125, Bucks 108

Boston, carrying three rookies for the first time since 1974, got 28 points, 15 rebounds and eight assists from Larry Bird and 20 points from Fred Roberts. Terry Cummings had 26 points and Randy Breuer 23 for Milwaukee.

Kings 134, Warriors 106

Sacramento romped in Bill Russell's debut as coach with Otis Thorpe scoring 31 points, including nine straight in a span of 1:26 in the fourth quarter. Eric Floyd led Golden State with 29 points, including 18 in the third quarter.

Trail Blazers 118, Suns 104

Kiki Vandeweghe scored 12 of his 32 points in the fourth quarter as Portland pulled away. Clyde Drexler and Steve Johnson had 22 points each for Portland. Walter Davis topped the Suns with 23 points, 17 of them in the second half.

76ers 108, Pacers 95

Charles Barkley scored 29

points and hit 10 of 13 shots from the field as Philadelphia started a season without Julius Erving for the first time since 1976. The Pacers were led by Chuck Person's 21 points.

Hawks 114, Bullets 97

Dominique Wilkins had game-high totals of 34 points and 14 rebounds for Atlanta, which led 73-45 by halftime.

Moses Malone scored 12 of his 32 points in the third quarter for Washington.

Pistons 110, Knicks 99

Detroit spoiled the NBA debut of New York coach Rick Pitino as Isiah Thomas scored 21 points. Gerald Wilkins had 25 for the Knicks.

Cavaliers 114, Nets 108

Cleveland was the only road team to win on opening night when Ron Harper scored 26 points and Brad Daugherty started a 10-2 fourth-quarter spurt with a 3-point play at New Jersey.

New Jersey got 23 points from Buck Williams and 22 from Mike Gminski.



KISSING THE DIRT: W. German motorcycling star Anton Mong rides to victory with 'a baby's bottle' (Photo INP/Bongarts)

Olympic medallist pleads guilty in steroid ring case

SAN DIEGO (R) — British Olympic runner David Jenkins has pleaded guilty to charges of taking part in a multi-million-dollar ring that supplied athletes with illegally imported body-building anabolic steroids.

Jenkins, 35, who won a silver medal for Britain at the 1972 Munich Olympics, pleaded guilty to four counts of an original 110-count indictment in a deal with prosecutors that reduced the

maximum sentence he faced. The deal reduced the maximum sentence Jenkins faced from 60 years to 10 years in prison. He also could be fined \$1 million.

U.S. district Judge J. Lawrence Irving set sentencing for May 9, 1988 and allowed Jenkins to remain free on \$750,000 bail until then.

Jenkins, a native of Leicester, England, who now lives in Cali-

fornia, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to defraud the United States, possession of counterfeit steroids for sale, smuggling mislabeled steroids and receiving steroids illegally imported from Mexico.

As part of the plea bargain, Jenkins will not be forced to cooperate with the government in its prosecution of more than 30 other co-conspirators named in the indictment handed up by a U.S. grand jury last April.

Woman ends round-the-world solo sail

NEW YORK (Agencies) — A 21-year-old woman completed a 2½-year, 27,000 miles (43,450-km) solo sail around the world Friday and said the best moment of the trip was the end.

"I wouldn't want to do it again, not alone," said the sailor, Tania Aebi, after her arrival at the South Street Seaport.

The woman believed to be the

youngest person and the first American female ever to sail round the world singlehanded said of her two-year trip that the best part was getting home.

"When I left I didn't know what I thought. Now I've seen life," said Tania Aebi, whose father Ernst, a graphics artist, bought her the sailboat for the trip she chose to make in lieu of attending university.

"I'm happy to be home. My best moment is now," said the 5-foot-4-inch (160-cm) New York native, who had some sailing experience but worked as a bicycle messenger before she left on May 28, 1985 aboard the 21-foot (7-metre) Sloop "Vatuna," meaning "God of wind and water" in Sanskrit.

Aebi looked tired but was jovial and happy and handled questions graciously after spending the night anchored near the entrance to New York harbour in 30-degree (F) (minus one centigrade) temperatures and rough seas.

Aebi, who received a triumphal welcome in the harbour as coast guard cutters and a police launch towed her boat to a slip near the financial district, and who received a congratulatory telegram from President Reagan, said storms and loneliness were her worst enemies.

She collided with a freighter as she manoeuvred through the Suez Canal. Her boat capsized at one point, righting itself but with the loss of electronics gear.

Also, along the way, her mother Sabine died of cancer and Aebi interrupted her trip to fly home.

"Apart from that," she said, "My worst moments, I guess, were the several times I was in storms." "It was also pretty bad when I met new friends and had to pack up and leave again," she said at a news conference.

Asked if she would make the trip again, she said: "I wouldn't do it the same way. I would do it again, but not by myself... with other people. I don't like to be by myself."

Aebi said she fell in love with a man she met on the Island of

Vanuatu in the south Pacific, another around-the-world sailor, and they parted in Malta.

She told reporters she did not know if she would marry Olivier Berner, 35, a Swiss geologist, who was in New York to greet her.

"I'd have to ask him," she said in response to reporters who asked of her marriage plans.

Aebi did not make the entire trip alone since she picked up a woman passenger in the south Pacific islands who wanted to sail to the next island about 80 miles (130 km) away. That was expected to affect any record she might have held for the voyage.

Aebi, who once described his daughter's trip as safer than driving on the New Jersey turnpike on a Saturday night, said he gave her the sloop on condition she support herself during the trip by selling stories about it to publications at various ports of call.

The experience will leave her as "an accomplished journalist" at an early age, said Aebi.

Ms. Aebi crossed the Atlantic Ocean in 1984 with her father and some friends in a 29-day passage.

Service with a smile from the Iranian tennis joker

PARIS (R) — It has never been a problem for the likes of Ivan Lendl, but for Mansour Bahrami it is insurmountable — he just cannot take tennis seriously.

The thickest Iranian with the walrus moustache and thinning hair has beguiled spectators at the French Open this week with his clowning both in victory and ultimate defeat against Yannick Noah.

Bahrami, who can never resist the opportunity of a gag, fooled Noah with a faked "fluffed" service, larked around repeatedly and even emulated the Frenchman's trademark trick-shot when he hit one return between his legs.

The Iranian, whose tennis career came to a temporary halt amid the upheavals of the Islamic revolution, is a skilful and accomplished player, whose deft touch belies his lowly 253rd world ranking.

But inside the potential winner is an inveterate crowd-pleaser.

"Other players would have tried more to win, especially with Noah holding his stomach," the Paris-based Iranian admitted after his 7-6, 6-4 second round defeat against an opponent playing with a pulled abdominal muscle.

"But I never really thought of winning. I just wanted to make the crowd laugh. It's been like that all my life. I've lost 15,000 matches that way."

"I think I have to try to win. I have to be serious." But when I get on court I can't do it." Bahrami is canny enough to turn the clowning to his advantage.

at times, fully aware it can unnervingly opponents to see his creeping up towards the net with exaggerated stealth to face a second service.

"I do it to make the crowd laugh, to irritate my opponent and make him serve a double-fault," he said after deploying the tactic against ruffled Frenchman Tarik Benhabiles.

Bahrami, 31, settled in France in 1980 and has resident status, but does not play on the international circuit as much as he might like because of visa problems.

He said the French authorities make him return to France after each individual trip, so he cannot string together a series of tournaments in different countries.

Bahrami stressed he was not a political refugee and said he would visit Tehran after his next tournament in Frankfurt, making his first journey home since 1983 when he went back to visit his dying father.

Growing up poor in Tehran, he first experienced tennis as a ball-boy and practised by hitting a ball against a wall with a straw brush. His first chance of playing properly came when he was 12.

Bahrami, who won a trophy for being the friendliest player off court earlier this year, was hooked and went on to lead Iran in the Galea Cup Youth Competition, played in the Davis Cup and even "beat" veteran Australian Rod Laver in an exhibition.

Noah said it was refreshing to see someone having fun on court, though the Iranian's antics had worked against him on a key point.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Hingsen likely to miss Olympics

MUNICH, West Germany (AP) — West German decathlon star Juergen Hingsen may be forced to miss next year's Olympic Games in Seoul because of a chronic inflammation of the left kneecap, his physician has said. "If the treatment does not produce any improvement by the end of the month, he will probably have to give up the Olympics," Dr. Armin Kluemper of the Freiburg University Clinic told reporters on Friday. Hingsen, 29, was admitted to the hospital Wednesday.

Pulled muscle sidelines Noah

PARIS (AP) — France's Yannick Noah had to withdraw from the \$840,000 Paris Open on Friday with a pulled stomach muscle that will sideline him at least three weeks. Noah was scheduled to play Netherlands' Michiel Schapers in a quarterfinal match. However he was still hurt following his second-round match against Iran's Mansour Bahrami the previous evening.

TV alleges error in long jump medal

ROME (AP) — Italian sports authorities are probing the possibility that American long-jumper Larry Myricks lost a bronze medal at the World Track and Field Championships in Rome last September because an error in measurement gave third place to an Italian athlete. The controversy over the long-jump competition, in which Giovanni Evangelisti edged Myricks for the bronze medal on Sept. 5, was featured in the nightly news on Italian state-run television Thursday night. A computer-graphics device illustrated the apparent mistake in measurement of Evangelisti's best leap. At the championships, Evangelisti was officially credited with a third-place jump of 8.38 metres (27.49 feet). Myricks finished fourth with 8.33 metres (27.33 feet). The graphics device gave results only marginally different from the official measurements of winner Carl Lewis of the United States and second-place finisher Robert Emmiyan of the Soviet Union, as well as Myricks.

Swiss skiers top most FIS points lists

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Swiss skiers, who dominated last season's World Cup and the World Alpine Championships, top all but two points lists of the International Ski Federation (FIS). The lists, which will regulate first-group starters in eight men's and women's disciplines of the forthcoming 1987-88 competitions, were made public in Milan on Friday as FIS announced the new commercial sponsor for the World Cup races. Lavazza, Italy's largest coffee distributor, will invest 3 million Swiss francs (about \$2 million) a year for three years for exhibiting its trade mark in ski races on two continents. World Cup defending champion Pirmin Zurbriggen led the FIS lists in super-giant. Fellow-Swiss and world champion Peter Mueller led the men's downhill.

10th chess game drawn after 30 moves

SEVILLE, Spain (AP) — The 10th game of the World Chess Championship between title-holder Garri Kasparov, playing white, and challenger Anatoly Karpov was agreed drawn Friday after only 30 moves at the suggestion of Kasparov. The score in the match remains tied at 5-5. Each player has scored two victories, with six games ending in a draw. The winner of the 24-game series requires 12.5 points or six victories. A win scores one point and a draw a half. In the event of a 12-12 tie Kasparov will retain his title.

Robinson becomes highest paid athlete

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP) — Former navy basketball centre David Robinson has signed a contract with the San Antonio Spurs that reportedly will pay him at least \$24 million, making him the world's highest paid athlete. Robinson, who has to serve two years in the navy, said he did not plan to ask to be relieved of that commitment. The No. 1 draft pick in the National Basketball Association (NBA) draft and the college player of the year said he was not entirely attracted by the money. "There is no amount of money I would have signed for if they did not have a commitment of making this franchise better," Robinson said. "This was a very tough decision for me and I had to sit down and talk with some people about it. I decided this was the place I wanted to be," he said. The 7-foot-1 (215.9 cm) Robinson was supposed to have signed a contract before the morning news conference but he, his agent and Spurs officials had to hammer out details of the pact.

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هكذا حبه لاجل

OAPEC calls on Arab petroleum industry to develop research

KUWAIT (OPECNA) — The Arab petroleum industry has come in for criticism for its inability to establish an effective research and development capability.

An editorial in the current issue of "Bulletin," a monthly publication of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), argues that it is erroneous to think that long-term research and development is an academic activity which sucks in huge funds to a "bottomless pit."

This impression, it adds, may be based on research lacking in concrete objectives and proper planning that has been carried out at certain unspecialised research institutions.

The editorial calls for joint efforts to launch a big research and development project in the Arab World, describing it as "the only alternative" as individually no Arab country can afford to invest the entire resource requirement.

"Without big research projects, the Arab petroleum industry will be perpetually dependent on buying foreign technology, packaged and ready for use," OAPEC noted.

The editorial concedes that long-term applied research in the refining industry, among others, is time consuming and projects

requiring 10 years or more have to be carefully planned with "patience and commitment."

"It is remarkable that this fundamental shortcoming has not been fully appreciated by either financial authorities or research managers," adds the Bulletin.

While admitting that the attainment of research and development objectives is never certain and the probability of failure is high in all scientific work, positive results are always possible. Innovative research and development programmes yield an average of one success for every five undertaken.

"Today's high-tech petroleum industry largely owes its existence to the research and development systems of private oil companies," says the OAPEC comment.

The editorial asserts that the future of the Arab petroleum industry, especially the downstream sector in which more than \$40 billion has been invested in the last 10 years, must be underwritten by indigenous Arab research and development as it is alone which is "the source of all new knowledge that maintains an industry's viability in such a highly competitive international market as that of refined products and petrochemicals."

Amman Financial Market will reopen next week

Trading at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) during last week amounted to 683,181 shares for a total value of JD 1,185,474 spread over 918 contracts. The activities were nearly 50 per cent below the weekly average because trading covered only two sessions (on Saturday, Oct. 31 and Sunday, Nov. 1). The AFM closed on Monday, Nov. 2 and will reopen shortly after the end of the emergency Arab summit.

Share prices drop again

TOKYO (R) — Tokyo share prices fell slightly in half-day Saturday trading, reflecting Wall Street's lower close on Friday, dealers said.

The 225-share index closed 158.01 points lower at 22,637.01, the day's worst level, after a 165.37 gain on Friday with export-linked shares such as electronics continuing to suffer from the weak U.S. dollar.

Trading was light with institutional investors on the sidelines due to uncertainties about which way both Wall Street and the yen/dollar rate would move next week.

The dollar closed lower in New York at 134.95 yen and 1.6700/10 West German marks, close to its record post-war lows, although trading was quiet in marked contrast to its volatility for most of the week.

Dealers said the currency was weighed down by doubts over the ability of Washington to work out a plan to cut the U.S. budget deficit.

Congressional and White House negotiators have held two weeks of talks but no agreement is yet in sight.

The dollar hit a post-war low of 134.40 yen in Tokyo on Friday. Wall Street stock prices dropped suddenly at the end of Friday's session after New York Stock Exchange officials said a half hour before the close that computerised programme trading would once again be permitted.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which earlier had been up as much as 20 points, ended at 1,959.05, down 26.36 points for the day and 34.48 points for the week.

Computer-based trading involving quick sales or purchases of large blocks of stock has been blamed for steepening the massive Oct. 19 sell-off, when the Dow dropped 508 points.

On Oct. 20, in an effort to tame the market, the exchange asked members to refrain from using its computer system for trades.

Gold futures closed higher on Friday because of buying by professionals following Thursday's drop to five month lows. December gold gained \$2.90 to \$462.10 an ounce.

Treasury bond prices were hurt when a surprisingly strong job growth in October doused hopes for a quick cut in the key Federal Reserve discount interest rate.

The bellwether 30-year bond finished lower, pushing its yield up to 8.85 per cent from 8.79 per

cent on Thursday. Shares in London sank on jitters about recessionary fears linked to the size of the U.S. deficit and the key stock index closed 18 points down at 1,620.8.

Central bankers open meeting in Basle today

Meanwhile, central bankers from the leading industrial nations meet in Basle on Sunday for the first time since the world stock market crash, and financial analysts say they seem to have little choice but to accept the dollar's latest slide.

Despite repeated central bank intervention on the foreign exchange markets and attempts to "talk up" the dollar, the U.S. currency has lost about six per cent of its value since they last came to the Swiss headquarters of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) on Sept. 7.

Even last week's coordinated European interest rate cuts and central-bank dollar buying did little to stem the falls, largely because of doubts over the extent of U.S. commitment to prop it up and worries over the U.S. budget deficit.

"If all central banks and political leaders could agree on the means to halt the dollar and stick to that, it should be possible to stop the dollar's fall in a concerted effort," a spokesman for the Dutch central bank said.

Analysts said such agreement seemed virtually unattainable, particularly after U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker was quoted in the Wall Street Journal on Thursday as saying that, given a choice between recession in the United States and a further slide in the dollar, Washington will choose a lower dollar.

There were also doubts over how far Europeans will sacrifice their own monetary policy goals to prop the dollar. The West German Bundesbank cut its relatively unimportant Lombard rate and not the discount rate last week, analysts said.

Mr. Hans Meyer, number three in the Swiss National Bank, said in a radio interview last week that recent intervention had been small and intended to smooth the dollar's slide.

"The regular monthly governors' meeting is anyway not an arena to decide something," said a senior Bank of Japan source, virtually ruling out any new pact to supplement or replace February's "Louvre" dollar-stabilisation accord.

Big Kuwaiti investor buys stake in B.P.

LONDON (R) — A major Kuwaiti investment company has bought a big holding in British Petroleum Co Plc (B.P.) just days after a £7.2 billion (\$12.7 billion) issue of new B.P. shares flopped in stock market turmoil, industry sources said on Friday.

They said the purchase by the Kuwait Investment Office (KIO) of a 4.9 per cent stake in the oil giant reflected the firm's usual strategy of buying shares cheaply in the hopes they would recover.

Existing B.P. ordinary shares closed on Friday at £2.47 (\$4.33), about 75 per cent of the £3.30 price on last month's issue of part-paid shares. The new part-paid shares closed at 79 pence (\$1.40), still well down on the £1.20 (\$2.13) first payment.

Industry analysts said the purchase did not appear to be linked to recent moves by the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) to expand marketing and refining activities in Europe. The KIO and KPC act autonomously, they said.

"This is KIO's style, to take hefty stakes in companies which look bombed out but may recov-

er," said one analyst. "I think they see it as a good investment."

Officials at both firms have declined comment.

The recent plunge in B.P.'s share price, prompted by the market crash last month, upset the British government's offering of its remaining 31.5 per cent stake in B.P. plus new shares issued to raise capital for the company. Most of the stock was left with underwriters.

Reports of the KIO move came shortly before the Bank of England was to launch a safety net share plan for partly paid new B.P. shares.

The central bank's offer to buy back shares at 70 pence (\$1.23), against the £1.20 (\$2.12) application price, will close on Jan. 6 at the latest.

B.P., one of the seven sister oil majors which dominated the world oil market until OPEC's rise in the 1970s, was active in Kuwait in the 1940s and 1950s. B.P.'s presence there has declined over the decades and it has shifted emphasis away from the Mideast towards the North Sea and Alaska.

Global financial chaos causes tremors in Italy

MILAN (R) — The global stock-market crash and fears of a U.S. recession could have a serious impact on Italy's economy, which was being lauded less than a year ago as a potential new European powerhouse, financial analysts say.

Prime Minister Giovanni Goria's office said the government intended to shelve planned income tax cuts to help trim its 1988 budget as a result of the chaos on financial markets and rising domestic inflation.

Italy's fragile, five-party coalition has been forced into a major overhaul of the budget after a key senate (upper house) panel rejected it as unrealistic in the light of the situation on the markets.

That move followed a warning by the Bank of Italy that the country's economic targets for 1988 were at risk.

"People seem pretty worried these days because of the international scenario," said Mr. Malcolm Duncan, head of the foreign relations department of the Milan bourse.

"There's a lot of pessimism in the air," Mr. Ernesto Marelli, a stockbroker at Milan's Studio Albertini, said.

Earlier this year the country was told it had ousted Britain as number five among non-communist industrial powers. Inflation steadied and corporate profits soared.

Now, after the market turmoil, rekindled inflation, a widening trade deficit and no substantial progress in trimming the huge public deficit, the boom has turned to gloom.

Mr. Giuseppe De Rita, secretary general of the Rome-based research centre Censis, said a U.S. economic slowdown would be bad news for such dynamic Italian businesses such as clothing group Benetton Group SPA, data processing firm Ing. C. Olivetti and C. SPA and chemicals giant Montedison SPA, all of which have a large presence in America.

"It is very likely there will be a contraction in U.S. consumption," he said.

Mr. Tim Orchard, Italian analyst for Warburg Securities, said his firm has cut its 1988 forecast for Italian corporate earnings growth from 12 per cent to nine per cent.

"If there's a slowdown, Fiat SPA sells less cars and Olivetti sells less personal computers," added Mr. Marelli.

More importantly, said Mr. De Rita, many Italian groups in the last three years have opted to raise cash on domestic and foreign equity markets to finance their rapid expansion.

Now, he said, "they may have to return to banks for financing, which tend to move slower and be less dynamic."

Financial analysts say the huge price falls on global exchanges already threaten a planned 1,000 billion lire (\$800 million) capital increase by Montedison — about a third of it scheduled for international markets — to be considered next Tuesday by shareholders.

In addition, several small to medium-size Italian companies have postponed plans for new share issues on the Milan bourse because of the market's slump.

Riyadh rules out rial revaluation

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia's finance minister, responding to rumours sweeping Middle East currency markets, said the kingdom would not revalue the rial against the U.S. dollar following the American currency's steep decline.

Finance and National Economy Minister Mohammad Ali Abal Khail said: "The turmoil in world financial markets had no effect on the financial or monetary policy of the government, including the rial which will stand stable."

The Saudi rial gave up some of last week's gains and returned to around its 3.75 parity against the dollar in response to the announcement, carried by the official Saudi Press Agency overnight.

"The market turned and domestic rates firmed sharply on the basis of the statement," one currency dealer said.

On Friday the spot rial had firmed briefly to 3.7435 to the dollar — its strongest level since the parity was set in June 1986 — following a wave of dollar selling in favour of the currency.

Domestic interest rates had also tumbled amid fears the Saudi Arabian government would revalue the rial.

But Saudi rial dealers said a revaluation would not benefit the government since it would effectively reduce the value of government oil income, denominated in dollars.

"A revaluation would decrease government revenues, which are paid in dollars, and hit the new (1988) budget which is expected to be announced soon," one dealer said.

In the past, Saudi Arabia has chosen to devalue its currency to increase oil revenues in rial terms and help plug a series of budget deficits.

The 1987 budget, corresponding roughly to the Western calendar year, foresees a deficit of \$2.7 billion riyals (\$14 billion).

The dealer added that a revaluation would also hurt banks in the kingdom, already hit by decreasing profits this year, because many still held long dollar positions.

"The only advantage would be that imports would be less expensive," he said. The kingdom is heavily dependent on imported goods.

Saudi traders said that despite the market turnaround, sentiment remained nervous on Saturday.

"People will be cautious as long as the dollar continues to come down," one dealer said. "Rates might remain steady, but we could also see a repeat of last week's trend."

Brazil, banks reach accord

NEW YORK (AP) — Brazil and a committee representing its creditor banks worldwide announced a short-term agreement on Friday to resolve the problem of the country's overdue debt.

Brazil suspended interest payments Feb. 20 on about \$67 billion owed to foreign commercial banks when a declining foreign-trade surplus reduced its foreign-exchange reserves. Brazil's total foreign debt exceeds \$110 billion, and no principal repayments have been made since 1983.

Friday's agreement is expected to forestall a decision by U.S. bank regulatory authorities to classify Brazilian loans as "value-impaired," a measure that would require U.S. banks to write down their Brazilian loans by 10 per cent.

U.S. authorities have been meeting in Washington all week without announcing a decision on the matter.

Brazil's proposed bank agreement with the New York-based bank committee still has to be approved by hundreds of creditor banks around the world.

Mr. William Rhodes, copresident of the bank advisory committee, and chief Brazilian negotiator Fernando Bracher announced the agreement, saying it is "a preliminary understanding that

marks the commencement of the normalisation of relations between Brazil and the international financial community."

Mr. Rhodes, vice president of Citibank of New York, and Mr. Bracher, special adviser to the Brazilian ministry of finance, said the understanding calls for the central bank of Brazil to furnish \$1.5 billion from its reserves and for commercial banks to commit themselves to lend \$3 billion under a short-term financing.

These funds will be used to cover a large portion of Brazil's 1987 external-financing needs, including the interest due from Feb. 20 this year.

The understanding calls for Brazil to disburse \$500 million and the banks to advance \$1 billion of their committed financing during December this year, to cover the interest due for Oct. 1-Dec. 31, 1987.

The remaining \$3 billion, including \$1 billion from Brazil and \$2 billion from the banks, would be disbursed once an agreement on a medium-term external-financing package for Brazil became effective.

The joint announcement said negotiations will resume soon. The creditor banks are also asked to maintain their short-term trade credits and interbank credit lines to Brazil.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1987

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

The early part of the day will be a good time to get much accomplished in the way of business and financial affairs, but later on you may run into some irritating, difficult situations which could slow you down.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Any short trips or errands which are necessary should be made early today. Work on getting your home affairs in order this evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you bring your desires down to a more practical level, you'll be able to get much more accomplished. You have excellent ideas now.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) There may be some stumbling blocks in your path today, but keep your eye on the finish line and you'll make it through to the end.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You'll have many inspired ideas today, but be sure you jot them down, as your memory is not infallible at all.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Don't be afraid to make changes in your plans if you come across an opportunity which seems better than what you now have.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Follow the directions of a superior,

even if they seem a bit erroneous right now. Save some time in your schedule for recreation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Listen to the views of others; the sun does not rise and set to make your day. Don't just talk about your ideas, make use of them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Decide with your mate what you would both like to do to make this a very happy day. Be sure you get an early start this morning.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A partner can help you plan a new strategy for home. Use your charm to gain more prestige in public. Drive carefully.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) If you sit all day and don't get much exercise, find a way to remedy this situation. Enjoy a quiet evening at home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get into some amusements which you really enjoy, but have little time for during the week. Go out on the town with your mate tonight.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Have a happy morning at home, but avoid arguments after lunch. Have friends in this afternoon, and different ones this evening.

THE Daily Crossword by Jeanne Wilson

1 Across
5 Lively Latin dance
10 Hungry man's slice
14 Wotan
15 Dutch —
16 Trump
17 Musical sign
18 Carp cousin
19 Merely
20 Party held by hawkers
22 Spooky
24 Lasso
25 "Of" and "Men"
26 Bog
28 Money belt?
33 Oct. birthstones
34 Same
35 — Guevara
36 TV's — Carter
37 Small change
38 Study hard
39 Three in Roma
40 "Tiny" —
41 City of brotherly love: abbr.
42 Mess hall
43 "The — Girls"
44 "The — Girls"
45 Orient
46 Medicine
47 Goldilocks' hosts
48 Ogden's skin problem?
49 Munich miser
50 Golf clubs
51 Division word
52 Poised
53 Ancient Gr. deity
54 Brad
55 Three-spot
56 Precipitous
57 Raison d' —
58 Student's pad
59 Thought
60 Osculate

1 Down
5 Belts
6 Part of a Stein line
7 Jacob's wife
8 Burns
9 Non-believers
10 Seaside
11 Anderson of TV
12 Competent
13 Lad
14 Foreman
15 Yodeler's feedback
16 Photo finish
17 Calendar division
18 "Mammy" e.g.
19 Snap
20 Caricature
21 Oil producer
22 Macho fellow
23 Believer
24 Noteworthy works
25 Pool necessity
26 Hob. month
27 Luxurious
28 Hale's partner
29 Back-lence
30 chetter
31 "A votre —"
32 Suda
33 Crossword
34 bird
35 Pry
36 Med. subj.
37 Mix
38 52 PH
39 FDR's VP
40 Soak flax

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. LORNO 2. AMBER 3. AFTER 4. OPEN 5. ROUSE 6. ROOM 7. CLOUTIER 8. ALKIE 9. CLOUTIER 10. BOBBI 11. RIV 12. ECO 13. RAVEL 14. DDA 15. NAME 16. ODE 17. PICOS 18. MINOR 19. VIEW 20. ERAS 21. DAVEN 22. PINE 23. AGO 24. NEVER 25. FUSIS 26. NOW 27. AVIER 28. EOT 29. SEVEN 30. MOO 31. RAM 32. AARER 33. BULL 34. SEIN 35. AARER 36. BULL 37. SEIN 38. AARER 39. BULL 40. SEIN 41. AARER 42. BULL 43. SEIN 44. AARER 45. BULL 46. SEIN 47. AARER 48. BULL 49. SEIN 50. AARER 51. BULL 52. SEIN 53. AARER 54. BULL 55. SEIN 56. AARER 57. BULL 58. SEIN 59. AARER 60. BULL

Peanuts

SOME FRIENDS OF OUR FAMILY JUST HAD A NEW BABY...

THEY'RE GREAT HOCKEY FANS SO THEY WANTED TO NAME THE BABY AFTER A HOCKEY PLAYER...

THEY THOUGHT OF GORDIE HOWE, AND BOBBY HULL, AND WAYNE GRETZKY, BUT THEY COULDN'T DECIDE...

SO WHAT DID THEY FINALLY CALL HIM? ZAMBONI!

Mutt'n' Jeff

HELP! HOW'S THE WATER, MUTT?

HELP! GULP! I CAN'T SWIM!

THAT'S NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF, MUTT...

I CAN'T PLAY THE BAGS FIDDLE!

Andy Capp

HOW'S YOUR "BIG ROMANCE" GOING, ANDY?

JUST GREAT, ALAN. THIS IS THE "INTELLECTUAL TYPE" — QUITE A CHANGE FOR ME.

SO CHALKIE WAS TELLING ME

THE INTELLECTUAL TYPE IN THESE PARTS, THAT'S A LASS WHO CAN THINK UP EXCUSES THAT YOUR MISSUS WILL BELIEVE

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NABOR

EAZUG

ELYSEP

CLEMUS

Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: GORGE FATAL BLOUSE P. IADE
Answer: What the defendant's lawyer was singing on the jury — TEAR "GAS"

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"On this diet I can eat anything I want, but I can only chew it with my bottom teeth."



His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday receive the Bahraini delegation.



A contingent of the Armed Forces stand guard of honour Saturday to the visiting Arab heads of state. (Photos by Yousef Al Allan)



South Yemeni President Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas Saturday confers with UAE President Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan.

Cardinal agrees to mediate in Sandinista-contra ceasefire

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Sandinista soldiers were ordered to resume fighting Saturday, the day a unilateral cease-fire ended. But a key government critic agreed to act as mediator in talks aimed at reaching a truce.

Elsewhere in Central America, leftist rebels in El Salvador said they are willing to renew cease-fire talks with the government. But the rebels said they reserved the right to attack government soldiers who enter areas under their control, and warned they would continue sabotaging El Salvador's economy.

Cease-fire talks are a key provision of a regional peace plan signed by the presidents of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica.

Nicaragua's Defence Ministry said Sandinista soldiers would return to combat Saturday in four areas where the unilateral cease-fire imposed by the government had expired. The ministry said the limited truce that began last month had served only to strengthen the rebels, known as con-

tras. Also Friday, Cardinal Miguel Obando Y. Bravo agreed to a request by President Daniel Ortega that he serve as go-between in the effort to arrange a truce between the Sandinista government and the contras.

The agreement was announced after Mr. Ortega paid a 45-minute visit to Cardinal Obando Y. Bravo at the Roman Catholic Archbishop's offices.

Afterward, the cardinal told reporters gathered outside: "I have accepted the proposal" to act as go-between for the government and the contra rebels.

"The cardinal considers this positive and we are going to continue discussions with him to make it more concrete in coming days," Mr. Ortega said.

Cardinal Obando Y. Bravo, head of the Roman Catholic Church in Nicaragua, leads the nation's National Reconciliation Commission formed under the regional peace plan. He has been a frequent critic of the government.

In a reversal seen as a boost to the regional peace process, Mr. Ortega offered Thursday night to hold indirect talks with contras and promised to release nearly 1,000 political prisoners. Previously, he had said the Sandinistas would talk only with the United States, which funds the contras.

Contra leaders were pleased that Mr. Ortega picked Cardinal Obando Y. Bravo to mediate peace talks, a contra spokeswoman said Friday.

"We are quite glad. We had proposed him ourselves some weeks back. All of the directors support the cardinal and agreed he was the best possible," said Marta Sacasa, spokeswoman for the Nicaragua Resistance. "We think he is the best possi-

ble mediator, he's the most respected man in Nicaragua. His love for the Nicaraguans is unquestionable," she said.

On Thursday, Mr. Ortega gave the legislature proposals for an amnesty and an end to a state of emergency in effect almost continuously since 1982.

The amnesty applies to political prisoners and contras who renounce their fight, but does not include the national guardsmen who worked for the right-wing government of dictator Anastasio Somoza.

The Sandinistas led a revolution that toppled Somoza in 1979. Roughly 15,000 contra rebels are now fighting to overthrow the Sandinista government.

In El Salvador on Friday, leftist rebels said they are willing to discuss a truce with the government. Two peace talks between the rebels and the government were held recently in El Salvador and Venezuela, but the guerrillas refused to attend a meeting planned for last weekend in Mexico City.

Philippine defence chief scolds military

MANILA (R) — Saying "we are at war," the Philippine Defence Chief has scolded the military for failing to stop spreading Communist rebel attacks on government and military targets in Manila and other major cities.

"This situation cannot go on for long, otherwise our country is in trouble," Defence Secretary Rafael Ilo said.

Gen. Ilo spoke at the start of a two-day closed-door conference on Thursday of senior military commanders preparing an "action plan" against the Communist New People's Army (NPA).

A copy of his speech was obtained by Reuters on Saturday.

"There can be no misreading of recent events, nor mistaking the intent, the will, the capability and future potential of the Communist insurgency to prosecute their plans with vigour and determination... with sophistication and impact," he said.

Communist rebels have spread attacks from the countryside to the capital where 16 people, mostly soldiers and policemen, had been killed. On Friday, they warned that Americans "med-

dling in internal affairs" would be targets.

Gen. Ilo said he discovered that tactical intelligence in the field was poor and added: "There is not much excuse for this. If we are deficient in this... then I really think we are really in trouble."

He raised questions on troop morale and leadership quality.

He also said massive amounts of military equipment poured in by the U.S. government will be of no use if commanders will not set the direction to fight the rebels, whose influence covers three-fourths of the country's 74 provinces.

A top Senate leader quit Vice President Salvador Laurel's party on Saturday in a move that further isolated the vice president in his political battle with President Corason Aquino.

Senate majority floorleader Orlando Mercado said in a radio interview he does "not like very much the direction" the United Nationalist Democratic Organisation was taking under Mr. Laurel, who has become one of Mrs. Aquino's strongest critics.

COLUMNS 7&8

World's newest subway opens

SINGAPORE (AP) — The world's newest subway opened for business Saturday, built to provide no-nonsense transportation as well as shelter from air raids in time of war. Second Deputy Prime Minister Ong Teng Cheong and other officials took a ceremonial first ride from Tao Payoh Station to Yio Chu Kang and back. Thousands of curious Singaporeans then swarmed on board the Japanese-built cars. Known as MRT, for mass rapid transport, the first revenue-earning track covers six kilometres and features five stations. If fully operational as scheduled by mid-1990, the 67-kilometre network is expected to carry 750,000 people per day. Traffic Manager Pok Sheung Foo said. There will be 42 stations, 27 of them above ground, all intended to be within walking distance of a third of the total population of 2.6 million. Nine of the underground stations are fortified to serve as bomb shelters capable of accommodating almost 100,000 people. Officials said these civil defence stations were built to withstand substantial blasts from aerial bombs, rockets and artillery shells, and provide some protection against most nuclear weapons. Trains and underground stations are air-conditioned, a necessity in a city 137 kilometres from the equator.

Prince backs campaign to save the seas

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Prince Philip, president of World Wildlife Fund International, on Friday threw his support behind a fund-raising campaign by the group's Swiss chapter aimed at preserving the world's oceans and whales. "We are against all actions that reduce the health of the oceans," the Duke of Edinburgh told a news conference in Lausanne. The Swiss chapter hopes to raise 1/2 million Swiss francs (\$714,000 to \$1.4 million) during its campaign, which is to last for about three months, said the chapter's head, Philippe Roch, at the news conference. Prince Philip said "horrible destruction" was being done to the oceans. For example, he said, every year 120,000 kilometres of nets are dropped in the northern Pacific Ocean, "trapping everything — fish, dolphins, and other wildlife."

Airline ticket fraud 'is \$500m a year'

GENEVA (R) — Airline ticket fraud is estimated to cost the world's airlines up to \$500 million a year, the IATA trade association has said. In its latest quarterly magazine, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said it had started a training programme to help staff from its 168 member airlines to spot fraudulent tickets. The article, by Terry Ewins, assistant director of IATA's Tariff Integrity Division, said in most cases criminals enlisted the help of unscrupulous travel agents. In exchange for a small cut, the agents altered stolen or false tickets.

Jessica McClure's toe removed

MIDLAND, Texas (AP) — Surgeons removed the little toe on the right foot of Jessica McClure during the toddler's fifth operation since she was rescued from an abandoned well. The 19-month-old girl underwent about four hours of surgery at Midland Memorial Hospital and was listed in stable condition, hospital spokeswoman Sue Ristom said. Doctors have not decided whether they will have to remove the big toe on the same foot, which was wedged in an awkward position while she was stuck in the well for 58 1/2 hours last month. Ms. Ristom said. Orthopedic surgeons also removed dead skin from Jessica's foot, but no skin grafts were performed during the procedure. Doctors also performed plastic surgery Wednesday to help heal a severe scrape on the girl's forehead. Hospital officials have said it probably will be another month before Jessica can go home. No additional surgery was immediately scheduled, Ms. Ristom said. The youngster was rescued on Oct. 16 from the shaft in the backyard of a day-care centre in a dramatic effort that drew worldwide attention.

Congressman, in tears, sentenced to jail

NEW YORK (R) — Congressman Mario Biaggi, sobbing and his eyes rimmed with tears, was sentenced to 30 months in jail for accepting free holiday trips and lying to a grand jury probe probing the affair. "If ever there was a Greek tragedy, it was this one. The hero is today struck low and grief descends," said Brooklyn Federal Court Judge Jack Weinstein. He also imposed a \$500,000 fine on Biaggi, a congressman for 20 years who is a staunch supporter of the Irish Republican cause and who was nominated in 1982 for a Nobel Peace Prize for his work on Northern Ireland. Biaggi, 70, was convicted on Sept. 22 of accepting illegal gratuities — two expenses-paid trips to Florida for himself and his mistress — from his co-defendant, former Brooklyn Democratic Party boss Meade Esposito. Esposito was sentenced last month to a suspended prison term, two years probation and a \$500,000 fine. The prosecution charged Mr. Esposito provided the trips to Mr. Biaggi in return for his helping coastal dry dock and repair, a ship repair firm that was a client of the insurance company for which Mr. Esposito worked. Mr. Biaggi, in a barely audible voice that was choked with emotion, told the judge: "The only thing I did was accept some hospitality from an old and dear friend. In my heart I didn't do anything wrong." Outside court, Mr. Biaggi maintained he was not guilty and said he would appeal. He is free pending his decision on an appeal. Biaggi faces a second federal bribery trial in connection with a probe of Wedtech, a defence contractor which the prosecution claims paid him hundreds of thousands of dollars for his help in winning it contracts.

Quintuplets born to Rome woman

ROME (AP) — A 26-year-old Italian woman gave birth to quintuplets at a Rome hospital after a Caesarean section, hospital officials said. A spokesman for the obstetric clinic at the University of Rome Polyclinic said Patrizia Annibaldi and her five babies — two boys and three girls — were all in good health. The babies were immediately put in incubators and the mother was resting, said the spokesman, who would not give his name. He said he could supply no further details. The news agency ANSA said Mrs. Annibaldi had the babies after 7 1/2 months of pregnancy. The largest, a boy, weighed at 1.48 kilograms (3.26 pounds) while the smallest, a girl, weighed 1.1 kilograms (2.4 pounds). ANSA said.

U.S. Supreme Court nominee asked to pull out

WASHINGTON (R) — A member of President Reagan's cabinet, acting with Mr. Reagan's knowledge, urged Supreme Court nominee Douglas Ginsburg on Friday to withdraw because he had used marijuana, an official spokesman said.

The furor over Judge Ginsburg is the second major Supreme Court embarrassment for Mr. Reagan. His original choice, conservative jurist Robert Bork, was rejected by the Senate as too extreme following a bruising confirmation hearing.

Education Department spokesman Michael Jackson declined to comment on Mr. Reagan's response when Education Secretary William Bennett told Mr. Ginsburg he was going to ask Mr. Ginsburg to withdraw.

But a department official, re-

questing anonymity, said Mr. Reagan did not object. "The president neither encouraged him nor discouraged him when Bennett said he would call Ginsburg and tell him what he thought," the official told Reuters.

Mr. Jackson said Judge Ginsburg did not give Mr. Bennett any indication of what he would do. "I would characterise Ginsburg as being noncommittal," he added.

A U.S. television network, CBS News, said Mr. Reagan had "given the green light" for moves to pressure Judge Ginsburg to withdraw from the confirmation process, which is now before the Senate.

Attorney General Edwin Meese, the highest U.S. law official, said the nomination should proceed.

U.N. formally announces broader access to war files

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations on Friday formally announced broadened access to its controversial trove of war-crimes documents and said guidelines would be in place by next week.

The new rules, which had been sought in particular by Israel, will greatly increase access for researchers, writers, reporters and historians to the files on almost

40,000 alleged war criminals and witnesses compiled by a World War II commission.

The rules were developed by Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in consultation with representatives of the non-defunct War Crimes Commission, which handed over the files to the United Nations for safekeeping when the 17-nation commission was disbanded in 1948.

1 killed by bombs at Dhaka political rally

DHAKA (R) — A young man was killed and several people were injured when attackers threw at least six bombs at a political rally in Bangladesh on Saturday, police said.

Witnesses said the bombs were thrown as retired Col. Abdur Rashid, co-chairman of the Freedom Party, was addressing the rally at the National Press Club.

They said someone fired at the attackers from a passing vehicle but no one was hit. Police could not confirm the report.

Police attended to the victims

as crowds ran for cover. One died in hospital soon afterwards.

The Freedom Party was founded last year by former army officers who killed Bangladesh's first president, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, in a 1975 coup. Saturday's rally was staged to mark the country's National Revolution and Solidarity Day.

Col. Rashid, one of two officers who claimed to have shot Mujib, blamed the bomb attack on the major opposition Awami League Party led by Mujibur's daughter Sheikh Hasina.

Irish police capture 2 members of kidnap gang

LIMERICK, Ireland (R) — Irish police captured two members of a gang that kidnapped a millionaire's son-in-law but are still hunting for their leader — a renegade Irish nationalist guerrilla known as "the border fox."

Their arrests on Friday was a welcome morale-booster for the Irish police who now face a major government inquiry after Justice Minister Gerry Collins conceded that major blunders had been made in the three-week kidnap saga.

Dublin dentist Jon O'Grady, whose father-in-law Austin Daragh is one of the wealthiest men in Ireland, was freed on Thursday after a gun battle between police and the four-man gang.

The kidnapers, bidding for a 1.5 million punt (\$2.25 million) ransom, had sliced off the ends of O'Grady's little fingers with a hammer and a chisel and sent them to his family in a gruesome package.

Doctors abandoned plans to sew the finger ends back on but said O'Grady, who cauterised his own wounds with a hot knife when in captivity, had made an excellent recovery and would be back at work within weeks.

The gang shot and seriously wounded a detective in the abdomen before fleeing across country with two Dublin housewives as hostages. They were released on Thursday night in Limerick, 200 kilometres south west of Dublin.

Two gang members took a taxi to nearby Tipperary where police trapped them. But they then escaped in a scuffle on the steps of Tipperary Police station.

A nurse was taken hostage by one gang member who gave himself up after overturning her car and being cornered by armed police.

Man held after seizing Canadian jetliner

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — A man armed with an axe and claiming to be fleeing from the mafia commandeered an Air Canada jetliner at San Francisco International Airport for about three hours on Friday, officials said.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents said the man, identified as James Drake, 37, of Florida, boarded the Boeing 737 shortly before it was scheduled

to leave for Toronto and Montreal.

He entered the cockpit and held the pilot hostage with an axe, agents said.

They said he at first asked to be flown to London but dropped his demands and surrendered about three hours later.

"The agents walked off the plane unhurt and he (Drake) walked off the plane unhurt," said FBI agent-in-charge Richard Held.

He said the pilot was shaken but not harmed. "That's the way we like them to end. Nobody got hurt," Mr. Held said.

None of the 171 scheduled passengers had boarded the plane and about a dozen crew members left the jetliner soon after the incident began.

The plane never left the gate and the arrivals and departures of other flights were not disrupted, said airport spokesman Ron Wilson.

Body of kidnapped Argentine financier found

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — The body of kidnapped financier Osvaldo Sivak, missing since July 1985, was unearthed from a crude grave near a grove of trees 50 kilometres south of this capital city, federal authorities have announced.

Federal Police Chief Juan Angel Pirker said Sivak was killed by a shot to the base of the skull on Aug. 11, 1985, one day after a \$1.1 million ransom had been paid by his family.

Federal Judge Martin Irurzun said four police officers were arrested and charged with kidnap and murder, including Federal Inspectors Horacio Saucedo and Hector Ruben Galeano, and fraud unit aide Carlos Alberto Bivolasky. Each is being held incommunicado.

"This is a very sad occurrence, not only because it signifies the loss of a human life at the hands of criminals, but because as police chief I have to tell you that

all of those involved to this moment are police personnel," Pirker said.

"Two years of terrible suffering have ended," said a bereaved Marta de Oyhanarte Sivak, wife of the victim. "Please respect my pain."

House majority leader Cesar Joroslavsky described the Sivak case as scandalous and tragic, saying, "they were four police officers that killed for money."

Police storm Brussels jail to end riot

BRUSSELS (R) — Paramilitary police have stormed a Brussels prison to end a 2 1/2-hour riot by more than 100 inmates and free four warders held hostage, police and prison officials said.

"The situation is under control and a check is being made to see if any prisoners have escaped," a spokesman at Brussels' Paramilitary Police Headquarters told Reuters.

"There were four hostages, but they are all safe and sound now," a spokeswoman at Forest Prison in south Brussels said.

Police, firemen and ambulances rushed to the scene and cordoned off the area after prisoners went on the rampage and set fire to furniture in one wing of the fortress-like jail.

Unconfirmed reports said the riot began when warders stopped

inmates from watching television.

Reuter photographer Attila Seren said he saw male and female paramilitary police using teargas as they stormed the block where the trouble broke out.

"There are police with torches staking out the backs of several buildings looking for escapees," he added. Earlier, a police spokesman said about 10 prisoners had escaped, but most had been recaptured.

Police said there were no serious injuries during the riot but prison officials said there was enormous damage to the jail.

It was the fourth time in two months that Belgian Paramilitary Police had been called in to quell jail riots.

The September violence at Forest and two other prisons fol-

lowed press reports that superior jail conditions had been prepared for English soccer fans extradited to Belgium to await trial over the 1985 Heysel Stadium riot which killed 39 people.

In Portugal, police stormed Lisbon's main jail on Friday and crushed a riot in which at least six inmates and a guard were injured, prison officials said.

Deputy Prison Director Joao Paiva told Reuters he could not confirm earlier reports that a prisoner had been killed. Prison officials had said one prisoner died while being taken to hospital for treatment of his injuries.

"We have several injured, some seriously," he said. "The situation is now under control and the police have already cleared the area."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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THE BEAUTY OF LOGICAL DEFENSE

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ J 10 6 5
♥ K 10 5 2
♦ K 2
♣ A 9 2

EAST
♠ A Q
♥ Q J 8 6 3
♦ A 10 7 4 3
♣ J 10 7 6

SOUTH
♠ K 8 7 4 2
♥ A 9
♦ J 6
♣ K 5 4

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass 1 ♠ 1 ♠
Pass 2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠
Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Four of ♠

We have often said it before and we will say it again. There is no such thing as a blind opening lead; just deaf opening leaders. This hand from the Open Pairs at the 7th World Bridge Olympiad bears us out.

After East's third-hand opening and South's overall, North used a

cue-bid in the enemy suit to check on the strength of his partner's hand. Since South showed no interest in game and North wasn't sure of the value of his king of hearts, he chose to pass.

Sitting East-West were Dr. George Rosenkranz and Miguel Reygadas of Mexico City. The most interesting call in the auction, from Reygadas's point of view, was his partner's pass of the cue-bid — had he wanted a heart lead, he could have doubled. So West hit upon the devilish lead of a low diamond away from the ace.

Who can blame declarer for playing low from dummy? East's queen won, and he shifted to the queen of clubs. Declarer won on the table and led the jack of trumps. East shot up with the ace and reverted to clubs. Instead of cashing his king of trumps, declarer thought he had time first to lead the jack of diamonds. But West took his ace, cashed the jack of clubs and led his last club. Declarer ruffed in dummy, but East overruffed with the queen to hold declarer to his contract. That was worth almost all the matchpoints, for most declarers were making nine or 10 tricks at the same contract.